OUR JOBBING DEPARTMENT

HAVING been REPLENISHED with a large assortment of the latest EUROPEAN and AMERICAN NOVELTIES, we are prepared to execute orders for FANCY WORK with neatness and despatch, and at very moderate rates.

'CHINA MAIL' OFFICE.

The China Mail.

Established February, 1845.

THE 'HONGKONG CHINESE MAIL.'
報日字華港香
(Hongkong Wa Tsz Yat Po.)
ISSUED DAILY.
CHUN UN MAN,
Manager and Publisher.
SUBSCRIPTION:
Five Dollars a year, deliverable in Hongkong. Outports, $11.00 per annum, including postage.

No. 10,251. 號七廿月二十年五十九百八千一英 HONGKONG, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1895. 日二十月一十年未乙 PRICE, $2.50 PER MONTH.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON:—F. ALGAR, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E.C. GEORGE STREET & Co., 30, Cornhill. GORDON & GOTCH, Ludgate Circus, E.C. BATES HENDY & Co., 37, Walbrook, E.C. SAMUEL DEACON & Co., 150 & 154, Leadenhall Street. W. M. WILLS, 151, Cannon Street, E.C. ROBERT WATSON, 150, Fleet Street.
PARIS AND EUROPE:—MAYENCE, FAVRE & Co., 18, Rue de la Grange Batelière.
NEW YORK:—J. STEWART HAPPER, THE CHINESE EVANGELIST OFFICE, 52, West 22d Street.
SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally:—BEAN & BLACK, San Francisco.
AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND:—GORDON & GOTCH, Melbourne and Sydney.
CEYLON:—W. M. SMITH & Co., THE APOTHECARIES Co., Colombo.
SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.:—KELLY & WALSH, LTD., Singapore.
CHINA:—Macao, A. A. DA CRUZ. Amoy, N. MOALLE & Co., LIMITED. Foochow, HEDGE & Co. Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., and KELLY & WALSH. Yokohama, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., and KELLY & Co.

Banks.

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1853.
HEAD OFFICE, LONDON.

CAPITAL PAID-UP £800,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS £800,000
RESERVE FUND £325,000

INTEREST allowed on Current Account at the rate of 2 % per annum on the Daily balances.
On Fixed Deposits for 12 months 4 %
" " " 6 " 3½ %
" " " 3 " 2½ %

T. H. WHITEHEAD, Manager.
Hongkong, September 16, 1895. 846

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE business of the above Bank is conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3½ PER CENT. per annum. Depositors may transfer at their option balances of $100 or more to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK, to be placed on FIXED DEPOSIT at 4 PER CENT. per annum.

For the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation,
T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.
Hongkong, August 1, 1895. 1515

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....................$10,000,000.
RESERVE FUND.....................$ 5,500,000.
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS.....................$10,000,000.

COURT OF DIRECTORS:—
J. KRAMER, Esq.—Chairman.
A. McCONACHIE, Esq.—Deputy Chairman.
Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving. | S. C. Michaelsen, Esq.
G. B. Dodwell, Esq. | D. R. Sassoon, Esq.
M. D. Ezekiel, Esq. | R. Shewan, Esq.
R. M. Gray, Esq. | N. A. Siebs, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER:
Hongkong—T. JACKSON, Esq.
MANAGER:
Shanghai—J. P. WADE GARD'NER, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING Co., LD.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED.
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.
ON FIXED DEPOSITS:—
For 3 months 2½ per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 3½ " "
" 12 " 4 " "

T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.
Hongkong, December 23, 1895. 343

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL,..............£1,000,000.
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL,..............£ 500,000.

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

Court of Directors.
D. GILLIES, Esq. | H. STOLTERFOHT, Esq.
CHAN KIT SHAN, Esq. | CHOW TUNG SHANG, Esq.
KWAN HOI CHUEN, Esq.
Chief Manager.
GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR.
Interest for 12 months Fixed 5 %.
Hongkong, October 23, 1894. 1711

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL,..........£1,500,000.
SUBSCRIBED,..........£1,125,000.
PAID-UP,..........£ 562,500.

Bankers.
LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LTD.

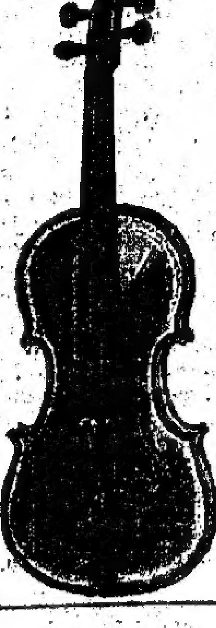
Interest allowed on Current Accounts at the Rate of 2 % per Annum on the Daily Balance.
ON NEW FIXED DEPOSITS:—
For 12 Months..........4 %
For 6 Months..........3½ %
For 3 Months..........2½ %
DEPOSITS RENEWED ON OLD TERMS.

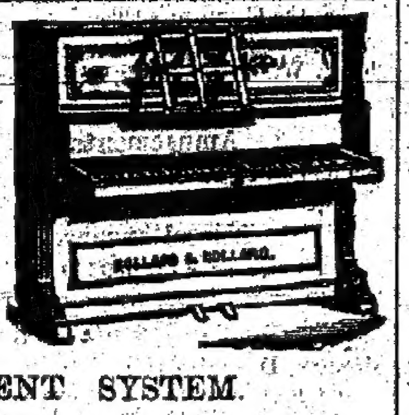
J. W. R. TAYLOR, Manager, Hongkong.
Hongkong, December 18, 1895. 228

PRIVATE BOARD and RESIDENCE for LADIES and GENTLEMEN.—Special attention to Ladies' comfort. Accommodation for Table Boarders. Central situation.
MRS. MATHER, No. 2 Pedder's Hill.
Hongkong, July 24, 1893. 1667

Business Notices.

Lane, Crawford & Co.
MUSICAL DEPT.





PIANOS
FOR SALE, HIRE, OR ON THE MONTHLY PAYMENT SYSTEM.
COTTAGES. YACHT MODELS.
PIANETTES. SEMI-GRANDS.
CONCERT GRANDS.
MUSIC and MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS of every description.
TUNING and REPAIRING. 2436

Caldbeck, Macgregor & Co.,
Wine and Spirit Merchants.
TELEPHONE No. 75.
HONGKONG, 15, QUEEN'S ROAD.
2278 SHANGHAI, 4, FOOCHOW ROAD.

W. POWELL & Co.
GRAND SHOW OF
XMAS TOYS AND PRESENTS.
ALL NEW GOODS.
W. POWELL & Co.
Hongkong, December 7, 1895. 2287

THE HONGKONG BUTCHERY,
Nos. 11, 13 and 15, Central Market.
PRIME BEEF and MUTTON, CORNED BEEF and TONGUES.
AUSTRALIAN PICKLED HOG'S TONGUES.
AMERICAN BUTTER in Rolls and Pats.
GAME, &c., &c., &c.
SHIPPING AND COAST PORT ORDERS WILL HAVE PROMPT ATTENTION.
J. TATAM.
Hongkong, December 2, 1895. 2244

CLAUSEN'S HOTEL,
66 MAIN STREET, YOKOHAMA.
CENTRALLY SITUATED NEAR THE BUND, AND CONVENIENT FOR THE RAILWAY STATION, WHARVES, BLUFF, AND POST OFFICE.
EXCELLENT TABLE AND ACCOMMODATION.
Special arrangements can be made for Families visiting Japan.
2254 C. CLAUSEN, Proprietor.

Apollinaris
"THE QUEEN OF TABLE WATERS."
"First in Purity."
BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.
"Has a charm which makers of artificial aerated waters do not even dream of."
MORNING ADVERTISER.
SOLE AGENTS:
CARLOWITZ & CO.
HONG KONG, SHANGHAI, CANTON, TIENTSIN, AND HANKOW.

BY ROYAL WARRANT. TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.
Awarded 31 Gold and Prize Medals.
HIGHEST AWARD OVER ALL COMPETITORS, EDINBURGH, 1890.
DEWAR'S PERTH WHISKY.
Contractors to most of the British Parliaments.
Under Competition, the only SCOTCH WHISKY drawn at the Bars of Messrs. SPIERS & POND, LIMITED, LONDON.
SOLE AGENTS for South China and Philippines,
WATTS & Co.,
Ice House Street, Hongkong.
1130

Business Notices.

BELL'S ASBESTOS EASTERN AGENCY, Ltd.,
28, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.
Sole Eastern Agents for:
Snowdon, Sons & Co. 'Snowdrift' Manufactures. | The New Wire Wove Roofing Co.
Sphinctor Grip Armoured Hose. | The Aluminium & General Foundry Co.
ASBESTOS PACKINGS to suit all Steam Power.
Jointings for any work, however great the pressure and temperature.
LUBRICANTS both liquid and solid.
TRADE MARK. BELL'S ASBESTOS.

DAGGER PACKING
ESTIMATES given for COVERING BOILERS and STEAM PIPES, with our Patent ASBESTOS COMPOSITION.
W. JACKSON, Manager.
1794

FESTIVE SEASON.
TABLE LINEN.
PLAIN DAMASK CLOTHS.
FANCY TEA CLOTHS, NAPKINS to MATCH.
TABLE RUNNERS, TRAY CLOTHS, ETC., ETC.
HONGKONG TRADING COMPANY,
2299 Nos. 1, 3 and 5, D'AGUILAR STREET.

WALTER W. BREWER.
GREAT VARIETY NEW CHILDREN'S BOOKS.
DRESSED DOLLS, RUBBER DOLLS.
BOXES OF TOOLS, BOXES OF COLORED BLOCKS.
BOXES OF MAGNETIC FISH, LARGE RUBBER BALLS.
BAGS OF MARBLES AND MANY GAMES.
To suit any Age. 2265

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY

WILL despatch VESSELS to the Undermentioned PORTS on the DATES named:—

FOR.	STEAMSHIP.	DATE.	REMARKS.
S'HAI, N'SAKI, KOBE & Y'AMA	Palawan	Daylight, 29th Dec.	Freight or Passage, (passing through the INLAND SEA).
SHANGHAI	Peshawur	About 30th Dec.	Freight or Passage.
LONDON	Ceylon	About 31st Dec.	Freight or Passage.
LONDON, &c.	Rosetta	Noon, 2nd Jan.	See Special Advertisement.
JAPAN	Verona	Noon, 3rd Jan.	Freight or Passage.
STRAITS & B'BAY	Brindisi	About 13th Jan.	Freight or Passage (calling at COLOMBO, if sufficient inducement offers).
LONDON	Massgon	About 15th Jan.	Freight or Passage.
LONDON	Japan	About 24th Jan.	Freight or Passage.

For further Particulars, apply to
P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office, ALF. WOOLLEY, Acting Superintendent.
Hongkong, December 27, 1895. 2448

The Public are invited to witness the
Billiard Handicap
now in progress in the
HONGKONG HOTEL. 2402

KELLY & WALSH, LTD.
CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.
PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS.
DRESSING CASES.
WRITING CASES.
CIGAR and CIGARETTE CASES.
LEATHER WALLETS and CARD CASES.
HANDSOME BOUND BOOKS.
PRAYER BOOKS. HYMN BOOKS.
2410 CATHOLIC PRAYER BOOKS.

THRIFTS ENAMEL COMPOSITION,
FOR IRON-WORK, SHIP'S HOLDS, BEAMS, BUNKERS, &c.
ITS ADVANTAGES ARE:—
HAS good covering powers.
One coat is sufficient.
Applied as ordinary paint and dries in a few minutes.
Preserves steel or iron from corrosion and withstands gaseous and atmospheric influences.
Invaluable for lower holds and bunkers.
Presents a highly polished surface of a bright red colour.
Sole Agents for China and Japan,
1677 WATTS & Co.

MOUNT AUSTIN HOTEL.

THE MANAGEMENT has decided upon extending the Hotel Accommodation to Umbrella Seat. The NEW ROOMS will overlook the Harbour on one side and Ladrone Islands on the other, and each will have its own Bath Room.

A NEW WING will also be built on the Eastern End to the North of the BILLIARD ROOM, and

A BALL ROOM is to be erected on the site of the present Chunam Tennis Court, to be approached by a covered way from the Hotel on the one side and by the Peak Road on the other.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON.
Hongkong, December 4, 1895. 2208

VICTORIA HOTEL, CANTON,
(Late SHAMEEN HOTEL, Canton).

MESSRS. MADAR AND FARMER have the pleasure to inform their Patrons, Friends and General Public that having LEASED the SHAMEEN HOTEL they have RE-FURNISHED, vastly improved it in every department and have RE-OPENED it under the more popular Style of the VICTORIA HOTEL.

For further Particulars, apply to
THE MANAGER, NEW VICTORIA HOTEL, Honam.
Hongkong, December 10, 1895. 2289

Auctions.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.
No. 528.

THE following Particulars and Conditions of SALE of CROWN LAND by PUBLIC AUCTION, to be held on the Spot, on MONDAY, the 30th day of December, 1895, at 4 p.m., are published for general information.

By Command,
J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, Colonial Secretary.
COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE, Hongkong, 14th December, 1895. 2419

Particulars and Conditions of the Letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 30th day of December, 1895, at 4 p.m., by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of One Lot of Crown Land, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 999 years.

Particulars of the Lot.

No. of Sale.	Registry No.	Locality.	Boundary Measurements. N.	S.	E.	W.	Square feet.	Contents in	Annual Rent.	Upset Price.
			ft.	ft.	ft.	ft.			$	$
1	Inland Lot No. 1,090	North of Eve Street	220	374	176	1.7	29,301		374	7,325

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

MY Brother, Mr EDMUND HUMPHREYS, my Son, Mr HENRY HUMPHREYS, Mr HART BUCK, and my Nephew, Mr JOHN AMBROSE JUPP, have this day been ADMITTED into PARTNERSHIP in my Firm of JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON.

JNO. D. HUMPHREYS.
Hongkong, December 2, 1895. 2247

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

FROM this date, during the Absence of Mr. JAS. B. COUGHTRIE from the Colony, Mr. GEO. L. TOMLIN has been appointed ACTING SECRETARY to the Company.

A. McCONACHIE, Chairman.
Hongkong, December 9, 1895. 2300

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FROM this date Mr. C. TOURNAIRE has TAKEN CHARGE of the AGENCY of the above Company in Hongkong.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX, Agent.
Hongkong, December 24, 1895. 2434

Intimations.

PRELIMINARY ADVERTISEMENT.

A NEWSPAPER will be published very soon, to be called
HUMPHREYS CLOCK.
JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON.
Hongkong, November 27, 1895. 2206

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.
No. 539.

INFORMATION has been Received from the MILITARY AUTHORITIES that ARTILLERY PRACTICE will take place from the 1st to 31st JANUARY, 1896, (SUNDAYS excepted), between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. DAILY, as follows:—

From Stone-cutter's Island, East and South Shore Batteries in Westerly and South-Westerly directions.
From Lyemun in North-Westerly, North-Easterly and South-Easterly directions.

All SHIPS, JUNKS and other VESSELS are CAUTIONED to keep clear of the Ranges.

The inhabitants of the Houses at Stone-cutters' Island are warned to keep their glass windows open during the practice.

By Command,
J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, Colonial Secretary.
COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE, Hongkong, 20th December, 1895. 2431

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRAORDINARY General MEETING of the HONGKONG BRICK AND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED, will be held at the OFFICES of the Company, No. 9, Praya Central, on SATURDAY, the 11th day of January, 1896, at 12 o'clock Noon, for the purpose of considering and if thought fit passing the following Resolution, that is to say:—

"That the HONGKONG BRICK AND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED, be wound-up voluntarily, under the Provisions of the Companies Ordinances 1865 to 1890, and that CHARLES EWENS, of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, be, and he is hereby appointed Liquidator, for the purposes of such winding-up."

Dated the 23rd day of December, 1895.
By Order of the Board,
W. A. DUFF, Secretary.

NOTICE.

WITH reference to the above Notice the Business of the Company will not be interrupted and Orders will be received as heretofore by the Undersigned.

W. A. DUFF, Secretary.
2433

Intimations.

ZETLAND LODGE,
No. 525 E.C.

A Regular MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in the FREEMASONS' HALL, Zetland Street, THIS EVENING, the 27th Instant, at 8 for 8.30 p.m. precisely. VISITING BRETHREN are cordially INVITED to attend.

Hongkong, December 27, 1895. 2407

PUNJOM MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Fourth Ordinary General MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the OFFICE of the Company, Connaught House, TO-MORROW, the 28th December, 1895, at 11 a.m., for the purpose of presenting the Report of the Directors and the Statement of Accounts to September 30th 1895, and for the Election of Directors and Auditors.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
JAMES B. DUNCAN, Secretary.
Hongkong, December 27, 1895. 2376

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRAORDINARY General MEETING of the Company will be held in the BOARD ROOM of The Hongkong Dispensary, TO-MORROW, the 28th day of December, 1895, at Noon, to Confirm the Special Resolution passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting held on the 11th Instant.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS, General Manager.
Hongkong, December 27, 1895. 2373

THE NEW BALMORAL GOLD MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE First Yearly MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS called for Noon on SATURDAY, the 14th, is POSTPONED to Noon, TO-MORROW, the 28th Inst.

W. HUTTON POTTS, Secretary.
Hongkong, December 27, 1895. 2334

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

NOTICE.

NOMINATIONS for the 1896 DERBY will CLOSE to the Undersigned on SATURDAY NEXT, 28th Instant.

By Order,
T. F. HOUGH, Clerk of the Course.
Hongkong, December 23, 1895. 2425

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

IN accordance with Section 120 of the Articles of Association, the General Agents, with Approval of the Consulting Committee, will on the 2ND JANUARY, 1896, ISSUE INTEREST WARRANTS of $5 per SHARE, PAYABLE at the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, the same being at the Rate of 10 PER CENT. per Annum on the Paid-up Capital of the Office for the year 1895.

The Transfer BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 18th to the 31st Instant, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., General Agents, CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LIMITED.
Hongkong, December 12, 1895. 2379

CUSTOMS NOTIFICATION.
No. 67.

NOTICE is hereby given that WEDNESDAY, the 1st January, 1896, will be observed as HOLIDAY, at the KOWLOON CUSTOMS OFFICES.

Work at the Opium Examination Office and Customs Stations will proceed as usual.

H. M. HILLIER, Acting Commissioner of Customs for Kowloon and District.
CUSTOM HOUSE, Kowloon, 26th December, 1895. 2408

CHRISTMAS
Waterbury Watches.
SERIES 'L' or Lady's Size @ $4.50 each.
Do. 'J' or Gent's do. @ $4.50 do.
Do. 'E' or do. do. @ $2.00 do.
Apply to
THE MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA,
8, Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, December 20, 1895. 2404

NOW ON VIEW.
FINE DISPLAY OF JEWELLERY SUITABLE FOR CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.
Comprising RINGS, EAR-RINGS, BRACELETS, BROOCHES, SCARF-PINS, NECKLACES, LOCKETS, &c., of every Description, with or without PRECIOUS STONES.
WATCH-CHAINS of the Latest and most Fashionable Designs.
WATCHES, in Great Variety.
LADIES' GOLD WATCHES from $20.
GENTLEMEN'S GOLD WATCHES from $30.
&c., &c., &c.
Also always on hand a SELECTED ASSORTMENT of UNMOUNTED BRILLIANTS.
PRICES MODERATE.
LEVY HERMANOS.
Hongkong, December 10, 1895. 2318

CHAN A-TONG,
COAL MERCHANT,
No. 5, ARSENAL STREET, EAST.
Business Office: No. 21, Gilman Street.
478

Entertainments.

THEATRE ROYAL,
CITY HALL.

THE HONGKONG AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB
WILL GIVE
ONE PERFORMANCE
OF
ARTHUR W. PINERO'S Popular Farce
'DANDY DICK'
TO-MORROW,
(SATURDAY), 28th Dec.
Commencing at 9 p.m. precisely.

Messrs. C. H. GRACE, V. A. CÆSAR-HAWKINS, R. BURNEY, F. CLARK, S. L. DARBY, A. S. C. MANNERS and W. S. FROWD.

Mrs. J. ANDREW, Mrs. V. A. CÆSAR-HAWKINS, Miss M. DICK-MELBOURNE and Mrs. ALFRED WROTTESLEY.

TICKETS can be obtained at the Theatre Royal, CITY HALL.

Booking Office open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

PRICES $3.00, $2.00 and $1.00.

LATE TRAMS 15 Minutes after Performance.

Hongkong, December 27, 1895. 2339

Notices to Consignees.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship *Catherine Apcar* having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods will be delivered from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge or remaining on board after the 27th Instant, will be landed at Consignees' risk and expense into the Godowns of the WANCHAI WAREHOUSE AND STORAGE Co., LTD., Wanchai.

Consignees of Cargo from SINGAPORE and PENANG are requested to take IMMEDIATE delivery of their Goods from alongside; such Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, December 26, 1895. 2442

STEAMSHIP *NATAL*.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from London ex S.S. *Guadalquivir*, from Bordeaux ex S.S. *Frederic Moret* and *Verbeckmois*, in connection with the above Steamer, are hereby informed that their Goods—with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables—are being landed and stored at their risks into the Godowns of the HONGKONG & KOWLOON WHARF & GODOWN COMPANY, LD., at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on, unless intimation is received from the Consignees before Noon TO-DAY (Thursday), the 26th Inst., requesting it to be landed here.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned.

Goods remaining unclaimed after THURSDAY, the 2nd January, 1896, at Noon, will be subject to rent, and landing charges.

All Claims must be sent in to me on or before THURSDAY, the 2nd January, 1896, or they will not be recognised.

All Damaged Packages will be examined on TUESDAY, the 31st Inst., at 3 p.m.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

C. TOURNAIRE,
Acting Agent.

Hongkong, December 26, 1895. 2439

NORTHERN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP *HANKOW*,
FROM TACOMA, VICTORIA, YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

THE above Steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature, and take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

DODWELL, CARLILL & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, December 21, 1895. 2418

To-day's Advertisements.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SHANGHAI *VIA* SWATOW.
(Taking Cargo & Passengers at through rates for CHEFOO, HANKOW *and Ports on the* YANGTSZE*)*.

The Co.'s Steamship *Taisang*, Capt. S. W. HOGG, will be despatched as above TO-MORROW, the 28th Inst., at 4 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, December 27, 1895. 2444

FOR SHANGHAI.

The Steamship *Lyeemoon*, Captain G. HEUERMANN, will be despatched for the above Port TO-MORROW, the 28th Inst., at 4 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
SIEMSSEN & Co.

Hongkong, December 27, 1895. 2449

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, SHANGHAI AND CHEFOO.

The Steamship *Tamsui*, Captain PIERCE, will be despatched TO-MORROW, the 28th Instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Hongkong, December 27, 1895. 2427

To-day's Advertisements.

POLICE NOTICE.

TO ENABLE PASSES to be ISSUED gradually, the Police will accept 4TH QUARTER PASSES till the 25th Proximo. OLD PASSES should be Returned when applying for RENEWAL.

W. C. H. HASTINGS,
Acting Captain Superintendent of Police.

POLICE DEPARTMENT,
Hongkong, 27th December, 1895. 2446

NEW YEAR HOLIDAY.

IN accordance with Ordinance No. 6 of 1875, the Undermentioned BANKS will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business, on WEDNESDAY, the 1st January, 1896.

For the 'Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China,'
T. H. WHITEHEAD,
Manager, Hongkong.

For the 'Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation,'
T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

For 'The National Bank of China, Limited,'
GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR,
Chief Manager.

For the 'Mercantile Bank of India, Limited,'
J. W. R. TAYLOR,
Manager, Hongkong.

For the 'Banque de L'Indo-Chine, Hongkong Agency,'
L. SIMON,
Manager.

For the 'Bank of China and Japan, Ltd.,' Hongkong,
CHANTREY INCHBALD,
Manager.

Hongkong, December 27, 1895. 2448

INSURANCE HOLIDAY.

THE Undermentioned INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business, on WEDNESDAY, the 1st January, 1896.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Agents,
Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.;
General Managers,
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.

N. J. EDE,
Secretary,
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.

B. C. T. GRAY,
Acting Agent,
North-China Insurance Co., Ltd.

W. H. RAY,
Secretary,
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.

SHEWAN & Co.,
Agents,
Yangtsze Insurance Association, Ltd.

GEORGE L. TOMLIN,
Acting Secretary,
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.

WM. MACBEAN,
Manager,
The Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, December 27, 1895. 2447

SHELL LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR HAVRE, LONDON AND HAMBURG.

The Co.'s Steamship *Pectan*, Capt. N. HOCKEN, will be despatched as above on the 2nd January, 1896.

For Freight, apply to
ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, December 27, 1895. 2321

Occidental & Oriental Steam-Ship Company.

TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES, MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND EUROPE, *VIA* THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND ATLANTIC & OTHER CONNECTING STEAMERS.

VIA INLAND SEA OF JAPAN AND HONOLULU.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

Gaelic (via Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea and Yokohama) ...	TUESDAY, Jan. 14, at noon.
Belgic (via Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea and Yokohama) ...	SATURDAY, Feb. 1, at noon.

THE Steamship *GAELIC* will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO, *via* NAGASAKI, KOBE, INLAND SEA and YOKOHAMA, on TUESDAY, the 14th January, 1896, at Noon, connection being made at Yokohama with Steamers from Shanghai.

Steamers of this line pass through the INLAND SEA OF JAPAN and call at HONOLULU, and passengers are allowed to break their journey at any point *en route*.

Through Passengers Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers, and to the principal cities of the United States or Canada. Rates and particulars of the various routes may be obtained upon application.

Special rates (first class only) are granted to Missionaries, members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic, and Civil Services, to European officials in service of China and Japan, and to Government officials and their families.

Passengers who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or *vice versa*) within one year, will be allowed a discount of 10 per cent. *This allowance does not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.*

All Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; and same will be received at the Company's Office until 5 p.m. the day previous to sailing.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to points beyond San Francisco, in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Offices, addressed to the Collector of Customs, San Francisco.

For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency or to Company, No. 7, Praya Central.

J. S. VAN BUREN,
Agent.

Hongkong, December 27, 1895. 2451

Vessels Advertised as Loading.

Destination	*Vessels.*	*Agents.*	*Date of Leaving.*
Baltimore	Amy Turner	Siemssen & Co.	Quick despatch.
Bremen & Ports of Call	Sachsen (s)	Norddeutscher Lloyd.	Jan. 6, at 3 p.m.
Chefoo, via Shanghai	Fuping (s)	Carlowitz & Co.	Dec. 29, daylight.
Genoa and Marseilles	Clam (s)	Arnhold, Karberg & Co.	About Dec. 30.
Havre, London & H'bg	Pectan (s)	Arnhold, Karberg & Co.	January 2.
Japan	Verona (s)	P. & O. S. N. Co.	Jan. 3, at noon.
London, v. Suez Canal	Glenfarg (s)	Jardine, Matheson & Co	About Jan. 17.
London & Ports of Call	Rosetta (s)	P. & O. S. N. Co.	Jan. 2, at noon.
London	Ceylon (s)	P. & O. S. N. Co.	About Dec. 31.
London	Mazagon (s)	P. & O. S. N. Co.	About Jan. 15.
London	Japan (s)	P. & O. S. N. Co.	About Jan. 24.
Marseilles, v. Saigon	Oxus (s)	Messageries Maritimes	Jan. 8, at noon.
New York, v. Suez Canal	Polyphemus (s)	Butterfield & Swire	About Jan. 12.
New York	John R. Kelly	Arnhold, Karberg & Co.	Quick despatch.
S. Francisco, v. Japan	City of Rio de Janeiro (s)	Pacific Mail S. S. Co.	Jan. 4, at noon.
S. Francisco, v. Japan	Gaelic (s)	O. & O. S. S. Co.	Jan. 14, at noon.
San Francisco	Brodick Castle	Shewan & Co.	Quick despatch.
Shanghai	Lyeemoon (s)	Siemssen & Co.	Dec. 28, at 4 p.m.
Shanghai	Kaifong (s)	Butterfield & Swire	December 28.
Shanghai	Peshawur (s)	P. & O. S. N. Co.	About Dec. 30.
Shanghai, via Swatow.	Taisang (s)	Jardine, Matheson & Co	Dec. 28, at 4 p.m.
Shanghai, Kobé & Y'ma	Merionethshire (s)	Dodwell, Carlill & Co.	About Dec. 28.
S'hai, N'ki, K'bé & Y'ma	Palawan (s)	P. & O. S. N. Co.	Dec. 29, daylight.
S'pore, Penang & C'tta	Catherine Apcar (s)	D. Sassoon, Sons & Co.	Dec. 31, at 3 p.m.
Straits and Bombay	Brindisi (s)	P. & O. S. N. Co.	About Jan. 13.
Swatow, Amoy & T'foo	Thales (s)	Douglas Lapraik & Co.	Dec. 29, daylight.
S'tow, S'hai & Chefoo	Tamsui (s)	Butterfield & Swire	December 28.
Vancouver (B.C.), &	Empress of China (s)	Canadian P'fic R. Co.	Jan. 22, at noon.
Victoria (B.C.), &c.	Hankow (s)	Nor. P'fic S. & R. Cos.	Dec. 28, daylight.

To-day's Advertisements.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to Sell by Public Auction, on

MONDAY,

the 30th December, 1895, at 2.30 p.m., at Messrs. VILLA, LOPEZ & Co.'s, No. 22, Stanley Street,—

THE HOUSEHOLD AND OFFICE FURNITURE, &c.,

comprising :—

PLUSH-COVERED DRAWING-ROOM SUITE.
CANTON BLACKWOOD WRITING TABLE, CURIO STAND and TABLES, ORNAMENTS.
CARPETS and RUGS.
DINING TABLE, DINNER WAGGON, DINNER, DESSERT and BREAKFAST SETS, GLASS and PLATED WARE.
DOUBLE and SINGLE BEDSTEADS, IRON COT, WARDROBE with PLATE GLASS DOOR, CHEST OF DRAWERS, BUREAU with GLASS, VIENNA ROCKING CHAIR, DRESSING TABLE and MARBLE-TOP WASHSTAND.
OFFICE DESKS, WRITING TABLE, BOOK CASE, COPYING PRESS, COUNTER and SHELVES.
ONE TYPE WRITER.
ONE IRON CHEST.
PLANTS.
&c., &c., &c.

TERMS OF SALE.—As customary.

J. M. ARMSTRONG,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, December 27, 1895. 2450

FOR NEW YEAR.

BRILLIANT COLOURED ELECTRIC LIGHTS, RED, GREEN, &c.
Considerably Superior to the BLUE LIGHTS, for ILLUMINATION and SIGNAL PURPOSES.
At 75 CENTS Each.
Also,
PLATED WARE, FANCY GOODS, &c.,
At Competing Prices.

NOVELTY EMPORIUM,
9, D'Aguilar Street.
2452

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

December 26 :—

Fu-ping, Chinese steamer, from Canton.

Ask, Danish steamer, 654, H. Hygom, Hoihow Dec. 25, General.—A. R. MARTY.

Hanoi, French str., 732, J. V. Chodzko, Haiphong December 24, General.—A. R. MARTY.

Menmuir British steamer, 1,980, Hugh Craig, Sydney November 30, and Port Darwin December 15, General.—GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.

Kwong Mo, British str., 177, W. Mahon, Amoy December 25, General.—MALCAMPO & Co.

December 27 :—

Taisang, British steamer, from Canton.

Lyeemoon, German steamer, from Canton.

Picciola, German steamer, 807, E. Hass, Saigon Dec. 19, Rice.—SIEMSSEN & Co.

Thales, British str., 820, H. Bathurst, Swatow December 26, General.—DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP Co.

Palawan, British steamer, 2,995, Charles Gadd, London November 16 and Singapore December 21, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Brindisi, British steamer, 2,265, R. A. Peters, Bombay December 6, and Singapore 19, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Szechuen, British steamer, 1,158, C. J. Derby, Java December 17, Sugar.—BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

Feiching British steamer, 979, J. Warren, Chinkiang December 23, Rice and Ground Nut.—C. M. S. N. Co.

Romulus, German steamer, 1,707, H. Schluck, Bangowango December 7, Sugar.—BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

Keong-wai, British steamer, 1,115, R. Unsworth, Bangkok Dec. 18, and Ang-hin 19, Rice and General.—YUEN FAT HONG.

DEPARTURES.

December 26 :—

Natal, for Shanghai.
Menmuir, for Sandakan.
Hailoong, for Swatow.
John Baizley, for Whampoa.

December 27 :—

Frejr, for Hoihow.
Tai Lee, for Swatow.
Sungkiang, for Amoy.
Coptic, for Nagasaki and San Francisco.
Haitan, for Swatow.

CLEARED.

Menmuir, for Shanghai.
Wing Hong, for Swatow.
Hankow, for Shanghai and Tacoma.
Amur, for Amoy.
Altmore, for Kobe and Victoria, B.C.
Foyle, for Kebao.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per *Ask*, from Hoihow, 28 Chinese.

Per *Hanoi*, from Haiphong, 7 Chinese.

Per *Menmuir*, from Sydney, &c., Mrs Craig and daughter, Mr and Mrs Rosenthal, Mrs Buckhold, Mr W. Brumfield, Captain Grant, Mr and Mrs De Silva, Dr Almeida, Mr M. Ozorio, 40 Chinese, and 25 Japanese.

Per *Kwong Mo*, from Amoy, 12 Chinese.

Per *Picciola*, from Saigon, 3 Chinese.

Per *Thales*, from Swatow, 48 Chinese.

Per *Palawan*, from Singapore, 105 Chinese.

Per *Brindisi*, from Singapore, 264 Chinese.

Per *Feiching*, from Chinkiang, 4 Chinese.

Per *Keong-wai*, from Bangkok, Mr B. Dickson, and 96 Chinese.

DEPARTED.

Per *Natal*, from Hongkong: for Shanghai, Rev. Hundo, Mr F. X. Rodrigues, Mrs C. Machado and 2 children, and 3 Chinese; for Nagasaki, 8 Chinese. For Shanghai: from Marseilles, Mr Meillet; from Port Said, Ruben Chaoul Sassoum; from Suez, Lieut. Bohus Van Villagas. For Nagasaki: from Singapore, Mrs Omoksay, Mrs Otooku, and Mrs Oh Kesan. For Kobe: from Saigon, Mr Jakeonty. For Yokohama: from Marseilles, Mr Jacques and servant, Mr Kartzove, Mr and Mrs Ilumine, and Mr Clayton; from Singapore, Sisters Domitine and Ste. Bernardin; from Saigon, Dr Méore and servant, Mr Graindorge.

Per *Coptic*, for Nagasaki, 2 Japanese; for Kobe, 1 Japanese; for Yokohama, Mr A. B. Brown; for Honolulu, Mr Hamilton Sharp; for San Francisco, Right Rev. A. E. Medlycott, Messrs Thos. Fairhurst, R. W. Bachrach, Dr R. J. Bowie, Messrs Jno. Kennedy and Ernest Bergendorff; for New York, Messrs Louis B. Quick and Alex. O'Brien.

Per *Kutsang*, for Singapore, Mr P. Windsor, and Mr Liu Yee Ting; for Calcutta, Sergeant Ferris.

Per *Sungkiang*, for Amoy, Messrs Gardiner, and R. P. Fr. José Mosip.

Per *Haitan*, for Swatow, Mr D. R. Law.

TO DEPART.

Per *Wing Hong*, for Swatow, 200 Chinese.

Per *Hankow*, for Tacoma, &c., 4 Europeans, and 18 Chinese.

Per *Amur*, for Amoy, 1 European, and 100 Chinese.

SHIPPING REPORTS.

The British steamer *Menmuir* reports: Left Sydney 10 p.m., November 30th, and calling at Queensland Ports. Arriving at Port Darwin December 13th, leaving at daylight on the 15th. Called at Timor on the 17th, leaving same evening. Passed Cabra at 1 a.m. on the 24th; arriving at 4 p.m. on the 26th. Until arrival in Port Darwin, light variable winds and fine; thence to Basilan, moderate N.W. and showery. From Cabra to arrival, fresh N.E. monsoon and high sea.

The German steamer *Picciola* reports: Had strong monsoon from port to port.

The British steamer *Thales* reports: Had moderate to light and variable N.E'ly winds, overcast weather. December 26th, steamers in Swatow: *Loo Sok, Nanshang, Sishan, Chintung, Chefoo*, and H.I.M.S. *Iltis*.

The British steamer *Palawan* reports: Had strong monsoon, with a heavy head sea and rain to Macclesfield Bank; from thence fresh monsoon and rain.

The British steamer *Brindisi* reports: Had strong monsoon.

The British steamer *Feiching* reports: Had fine weather all the passage to arrival.

The British steamer *Keong-wai* reports: Had fine weather, with moderate to strong monsoon and high sea.

EXPORT CARGOES.

Per s. s. *Monmouthshire*, sailed on 17th December:—For New York, 2,034 rolls Matting, 44 bales Rattancore, 108 cases Chinaware, 10 cases Bristles, 12 cases Blackwoodware, 24 cases Essential Oil, and 502 pkgs. Merchandise.

Per s. s. *Teucer*, sailed 24th December:—For London, 30 bales Waste Silk, 29 bales Hemp, 20 bales Rattans, 38 cases Cigars, 40 cases Bristles, 2 cases Blackwoodware, 58 cases Chinaware, 100 cases Preserves, 199 casks Preserves, 27 bags Gum, 18 baskets Shells, 25 pkges. Sundries. For London and/or Manchester, 50 bales Waste Silk. For Liverpool, 70 bales Hemp, 3 cases Cigars, 1 pkge. Sundries. For Southampton, 17 pkges. Sundries.

Per s. s. *Saghalien*, sailed on 25th December:—For Continent, 152 bales Raw Silk, 11 cases Silk Piece Goods, 6 cases Glass Bangles, 150 cases Cassia, 7 cases Cigars, 6 pkgs. Matting, 212 pkgs. Tea, and 9 bales Hair.

POST OFFICE NOTICES.

MAILS will close :—

For SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, VICTORIA, B.C., AND TACOMA.
Per *Hankow*, at 11.30 a.m., on Saturday, the 28th inst., instead of as previously notified.

For SINGAPORE.—
Per *Bengloe*, at 0.30 p.m., on Saturday, the 28th inst.

For SWATOW & SHANGHAI.—
Per *Taisang*, at 3.30 p.m., on Saturday, the 28th inst.

For SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.—
Per *Palawan*, at 5 p.m., on Saturday, the 28th inst.

For SHANGHAI & CHEFOO.—
Per *Fu-ping*, at 5 p.m., on Saturday, the 28th inst.

For SWATOW, AMOY & TAIWANFOO.
Per *Thales*, at 5 p.m., on Saturday, the 28th inst.

For BANGKOK.—
Per *Phra Chom Klao*, at 9.30 a.m., on Tuesday, the 31st inst.

For SINGAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA.—
Per *Catherine Apcar*, at 2.30 p.m., on Tuesday, the 31st inst.

For PORT DARWIN, THURSDAY ISLAND, COOKTOWN, TOWNSVILLE, BRISBANE, SYDNEY & MELBOURNE.—
Per *Ocampo*, at 3.30 p.m., on Tuesday, the 31st inst.

MEMOS. FOR TO-MORROW.

Shipping.

Daylight.—*Hankow* leaves for Victoria (B.C.), via Japan, &c.

4 p.m.—*Taisang* leaves for Shanghai, &c.

4 p.m.—*Lyeemoon* leaves for Shanghai.

Tamsui leaves for Swatow, &c.

Kaifong leaves for Shanghai.

Meetings.

11 a.m.—Meeting of Shareholders of The Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., at the Company's Office.

Noon.—Meeting of Shareholders of The New Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Ltd., at the Company's Office.

Noon.—Meeting of Shareholders of A. S. Watson Co., Ltd., at the Company's Board Room.

Amusements.

9 p.m.—A. D. C. Performance at City Hall.

Miscellaneous.

Nominations for the 1896 Derby close.

General Memoranda.

MONDAY, December 30 :—

2.30 p.m.—Auction of Household and Office Furniture, &c., at Messrs Villa, Lopez & Co.'s, No. 22, Stanley Street.

4 p.m.—Auction of Crown Land at North of Ewo Street.

Exchange.

HONGKONG, December 27, 1895.

On London—	
Bank, Wire,	2/1⅛
„ On demand,	2/1⅛
„ 30 days' sight,	—
„ 4 months' sight,	2/1¼
Credits, 4 „	2/2
Documentary, 4 months' sight,	2/2⅛
On Paris—	
On demand,	2.68
Credits, 4 months' sight,	2.74
On Berlin—Demand,	2.17
On New York—	
On demand,	—
Credits, 60 days' sight,	—
On Bombay—	
Wire,	183½
On demand,	183¾
On Calcutta—	
Wire,	183½
On demand,	183¾
On Shanghai—	
On demand,	72⅝
30 days' sight, private paper	73⅜
Gold Leaf, 100 fine (per tael)	$48.00
Sovereigns (Bank's buying rate)	—
Silver (per oz.)	30⅞d.

HONGKONG REGISTER.

	Previous day at 4 p.m.	On date at 10 a.m.	On date at 4 p.m.
Barometer ...	30.21	30.34	30.21
Temperature	67	71	74
Humidity ...	70	63	45
Direction of Wind ...	E	NNE	N
Force	3	3	2
Weather	c	c	c
Rain	—	—	—

Highest open air temperature on the 26th 71
Lowest open air temperature on the 26th 65

F. G. FIGG,
First Assistant.

Hongkong Observatory, Dec. 27, 1895.

THE
HONGKONG DISPENSARY

has just received FRESH SUPPLIES
OF
WHOLESOME
CONFECTIONERY
AND
Delicious Sweets,
of the HIGHEST QUALITY and PURITY

These include—

CADBURY'S SPECIAL CREMES
PÂTE D'ABRICOT, JORDAN ALMONDS
CARAMELS, PRALINES,

DESSERT CHOCOLATE,
NOUGAT, FRUIT JELLIES,
CRYSTALLISED FRUITS,
METZ FRUITS,
ASSORTED TOFFEES,
MIXED BONBONS,
FRY'S CHOCOLATES,
TANGERINE BISCUITS,
ORANGE PASTE, ORANGE ROLLS,
&c., &c., &c.

Together with the Latest Novelties in
FANCY BOXES,
which are very suitable as Seasonable Presents for Ladies and Young People.

FRENCH
CONFECTIONERY and CONSERVES
in Large Assortment
from the BEST PARISIAN HOUSES.

A. S. WATSON & Co., LIMITED,
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.
ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

Hongkong, November 30, 1895. 2325

☞ *The publication of this issue commenced at 6.25 p.m.*

The China Mail.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1895.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

PASSED SUEZ CANAL.

OUTWARD BOUND :—*Tientsin*, Oct. 25; *Fallodon Hall*, Nov. 1; *Stentor*, *St. Regulus*, 5; *St. Andrews*, 12; *Teresa*, 22; *Oopack*, Dec. 22.

HOMEWARD BOUND :—*Frigga*, Nov. 12; *Carmarthenshire*, 17; *Bombay*, 19; *Oceanien*, *Braemar*, *Ormiston*, 22.

The P. and O. Co.'s steamship *Peshawur*, with the ENGLISH MAIL of 29th November, left Singapore on Sunday, Dec. 22, at 4 p.m., and may be expected here on or about Friday, December 27. This Packet brings replies to letters despatched from Hongkong on the 24th October.

The P. M. s.s. *City of Rio de Janeiro*, with the AMERICAN MAIL of the 20th Nov., left Nagasaki on Wednesday, the 25th inst., at 7 p.m., and may be expected here on or about Sunday, the 29th inst.

The *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, left Yokohama on the 25th inst. for this port, via Kobe, Nagasaki and Shanghai.

The s. s. *Tacoma* left Tacoma on the 8th inst., for this port.

The O. & O. steamship *Gaelic*, with mails, &c., left San Francisco for this port, via Yokohama and Nagasaki, on the 10th inst.

The N. G. I. s. s. *Letimbro* left Singapore on the 20th inst., and may be expected here on or about the 27th inst.

The s. s. *Merionethshire* left Singapore on the 20th instant, and may be expected here on or about the 27th inst.

The China Mutual s. s. *Ningchow*, from Glasgow and Liverpool, left Singapore on the 21st inst., and may be expected here on or about the 27th inst.

The O. S. S. Co.'s s. s. *Pyrrhus*, from Liverpool, left Singapore on the 23rd inst., and may be expected here on or about the 29th inst.

The steamer *Wingsang*, from Calcutta and Straits, left Singapore on the 24th inst., and may be expected here on or about the 31st inst.

The s. s. *Glenartney*, from Antwerp London and Straits, left Singapore on the 24th inst., and may be expected here on or about the 31st inst.

The C. N. Co.'s s. s. *Chingtu* left Port Darwin on the 23rd inst., and may be expected here on or about the 1st Jan.

THE P. & O. s. s. *Shanghai*, from China, arrived at London on the 25th inst.

A CORRESPONDENT of a Singapore journal urges the necessity for strengthening the defences of the sister Colony.

THE Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs Gazette for the quarter ending September last is published by order of the Inspector General.

THE s.s. *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, arrived at Yokohama at 7.30 a.m. on Wednesday, the 25th Dec., and left at 2 p.m. the same day for Hongkong, viâ Kobe Nagasaki and Shanghai.

THE Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation to the funds of the Hospitals :—Pawnbrokers' Guild, $100.

TO-MORROW afternoon on the Happy Valley the last tie in the second round for the Hongkong Football Challenge Cup will be played. The 35th S.D., R.A., will play H. M. S. *Centurion*. Kick-off at 4.15. Referee—Mr E. F. Mackay.

VESSELS IN THE DOCKS :—At *Kowloon*—H. I. G. M. S. Irene, Reina Cristina, Amoy, Oslo, Kong Beng, Strathdee, Byzdo, Doris, H. M. S. Caroline, Boynton.
Cosmopolitan—Belgic.
Aberdeen—(none).

THE 'astrologers' were remarkably unhappy in their predictions for last month. 'Zadkiel' and 'Raphael' both saw terrible earthquakes, which failed to come as directed; the first-named prophet said that 'in China and Japan the worst effects will be felt,' which shows that other countries must have been quite comfortable, for the 'worst' was not visible to the naked eye. Zadkiel said also that 'the ruler of Germany will meet with trouble and sadness,' but William obstinately didn't meet it. Raphael said 'France, Italy and Russia will be sorely troubled by the spirit of rebellion,' which may have turned out correct if we only knew, but we don't know of any such thing. Both prophets predicted epidemics, which have not 'materialised;' and both assert that some royal person will come to smash—which is a fairly safe guess for any time, almost, but as it happens it didn't eventuate this time. The rest of the predictions are nice and easy—'Men's minds will be much excited,' and 'it will be a month long to be remembered,' and 'Ireland will become unfortunate'—Great Heritage! And So-and-so 'will do well to avoid danger of all kinds,' which is likely enough. And 'the East will be full of violence if not war,' which is pretty usual. We could do a good deal of prophesying on that scale. Here is one—'1896 will be in some respects like some other years, and in other respects it may be different. Over-eating will be liable during June to cause indigestion. If any of these predictions, are not verified by the event, something else will happen.'

OWING to increase of Business, W. Robinson and Co. have removed their Piano and Organ showrooms to Connaught House—[illegible]

TO-DAY, the Douglas steamer *Thales* completed her 400th voyage between Hongkong and Coast Ports and Formosa. In honour of the occasion she is 'dressed' in bunting with '400' in evergreens suspended between the masts.

THE annual tea and meeting of St. Peter's Seamen's Church takes place at the Sailors' Home to-night—tea at 6.30, entertainment at 8 o'clock. Commodore Boyes, R.N., presides; and Lieut. Risk, R.N., and the Rev. C. R. Hughes, R.N., will deliver addresses.

SOME time ago, serious riots occurred at Sampeng, Bangkok, between two Chinese secret societies. A letter was published in the *Bangkok Times* alleging that Phya Turakan, Chief Inspector of Police, was a member of the Gee Hok Society and had used the police under him to assist that Society against the See Lieu Ku Society. An apology was demanded and refused. A libel action was the outcome, and the jury held that there was not sufficient evidence to support the plea of justification set up by Mr Thorne, the editor and proprietor of the *Times*, but in the absence of express malice they assessed the damages at one tical.

THE Imuris shareholders are apparently being attacked already in Hongkong; and, as usual, Hongkong has not the promptness nor the spirit of Shanghai, and suffers thereby. The Shanghailanders have already combined for mutual defence against any further attempts to extort calls from Imuris shareholders. In Hongkong there is no such organisation. In the Supreme Court this morning, a suit by the New Imuris Company (in Liquidation) against Ng Lau Tong, for $62.45, was set down for hearing. There might have been any number of valid defences raised; but as it happened, the defendant paid the money without showing fight.

THE approach of winter and the New Year has given a impetus to crime in Tonkin as well as in the neighbourhood of Hongkong. The *Avenir* of Dec. 14 gives reports of five daring piratical outrages during the past week. In one case the marauders carried off for ransom the mother of the *huyen* or native district magistrate; a large party set out in pursuit, but had to return with two men killed and one wounded; a military force then went after the pirates, but was beaten back, and now 500 men with three cannon have had to be sent. In another case the pirates beheaded a number of native prisoners, and burnt one of them with petroleum. In another case they boldly attacked a French post and wounded a sentry severely, taking themselves off unhurt into the jungle as soon as the alarm was given.

THE St. Petersburg semi-official journal *Novoe Vremya* urges the Russian Government to purchase the Dutch island of Pulo-babi, Sumatra, for a naval station in the Pacific. The visit of the Governor of Eastern Siberia to Batavia gives greater significance to the above proposal of the *Novoe Vremya* than would otherwise be the case. Whatever may be the ultimate development of the Far Eastern question, it is at least apparent that Russian statesmen are carrying out a policy which will render them independent of the questionable support of France. Coaling stations are urgently needed by the Russian fleet in the Far East, and although France has placed Obock and her Tonkin ports at the disposal of Russia, the Russian warships have not availed themselves to any extent of the privilege. It is clearly apparent that Russians look very gingerly upon their alliance with France. They are in accord in their treatment of China as opposed to Japan, but, nevertheless, Russia is following out an independent policy with an astuteness that does credit to her statesmen.

GEOGRAPHY is a great science among the French. A man going from Madagascar to France put in at Mahé, in the Seychelles, and wrote to *l'Illustration* lamenting about Mahé, 'one of the pearls of the British Empire in the Indian Ocean, a pearl which used to adorn the crown of France.' Then the *Petit Colonial* takes him up tenderly and says 'fortunately we can inform him that it is still French. It is the last of the diamonds which used to adorn our Indian jewel-case. See *l'Annuaire des Colonies*, page 550—Mahé, town on the Malabar Coast, India.' Then the *Courrier d'Haiphong* jumps on them all, pointing out that there are two Mahés, both formerly French; the one in India is still French, and the one originally referred to by the *Illustration's* correspondent is now a British possession, in the Seychelles Islands, on the way from Madagascar to Aden. Our Tonkin contemporary is correct for once; but if we remember rightly, it was the *Courrier* (or it might be the *Avenir*) which lately referred to a new issue of Johore postage stamps as belonging to 'a place in Borneo where there is no postal service'; and now *L'Independance Tonkinoise* announces the coronation of H. H. Ibrahim, the new Sultan of Johore, under the heading of 'Borneo.'

THE new Volunteer Fleet steamer *Vladimir*, Com. Kruger, arrived in Singapore on the 17th inst, from Odessa en route for Vladivostock. She brings a general cargo of 6,000 tons, much of it railway material for the Siberian Railway. The *Vladimir* is one of the new Volunteer steamers, and was built by Denny Bros. of Dumbarton. She carried to Havre the present of the Czar to the French nation quite recently. Across the Bay the *Vladimir* encountered very bad weather, but the way she held her own was admirable, and she has made, in her maiden trip, a very successful voyage.

W. ROBINSON and Co. are Special Agents for all the leading English and Continental [illegible]

'DANDY DICK.'

'Dandy Dick' is one of the best specimens of the modern farce dealing with sporting life. It is racy throughout, and withal perfectly natural, except that sometimes the slang is piled on too heavily in the conversation. For the benefit of those who have not yet seen it, we may without doing any harm to the A. D. C. briefly recapitulate the points of the plot. The Dean of St. Marvells has a sister who married a racing man, and was devoted to racing. The time came when her husband died, and she retired from the turf to live at the Deanery. The St. Marvells race meeting was to be held about this time, and her favourite horse Dandy Dick was brought to the village to run in the principal event. The Dean's two daughters were hard pressed for money to pay milliner's bills which they had contracted without his knowledge, on account of a fancy dress ball of which he disapproved; and at their aunt's advice they 'plunged' on Dandy Dick at the market price of 10 to 1 against, hoping thereby to raise the wind. The Dean himself was in an awful state of impecuniosity, having pledged himself to give £1000 for the restoration of the cathedral spire, on conditions which he had hoped would let him out. So he also was tempted by his sister to commit the deadly sin of betting on the races, instead of converting his sister from her wicked ways as he had intended. The stables were burnt out during the night, and the race-horse had to be put up in the Deanery stable, to the horror of the Very Rev. However, humanity moved him to compound a bolus for the poor animal, which was suffering from a chill; and the pious butler of the Deanery, who had backed another horse, contrived to get strychnine into the bolus unnoticed. Thus the Dean came to be caught in the act of trying to poison the horse, and found his way to the police lock-up. Attempts to save his name from disgrace lead to a series of ludicrous adventures, which all end happily; Dandy Dick wins the race, and his backers make pots of money, and the cathedral spire goes up in fine style, and the Dean's daughters are made happy by marrying a couple of the most miserable imbecile puppies ever seen on the stage. That is a strange freak of British drama—the more despicable and paltry a character is, the more is made of him by the stage heroine.

Of the acting as a whole, we can honestly say that it was quite good enough to remove from the word 'amateur' all the stigma which usually attaches to it—often quite without foundation. It is the fashion, because it looks 'knowing,' to cry down amateurs, and to associate with the term all that is crude and unredeemed by any excellence. On the contrary, there are many points in which an amateur performance is better than a professional, especially in a small, out-of-the-way place like Hongkong. Here the amateurs have more time to prepare and perfect themselves than a travelling company can possibly have; and the element of time is also largely in their favour in the matter of stage management, while scenery and dressing of the piece should be of course always far better. Thus it is that, on its merits, an amateur performance must be in some respects the more worthy of praise and the more worth going to see; and it is well that we have them, for otherwise Hongkong's position would reduce us to a very low ebb in the matter of entertainment.

The interest in 'Dandy Dick' is concentrated in the characters of the Dean and his sister. Mrs Wrottesley as *Georgiana Tidman* was magnificent from first to last. Her acting is easy, vivacious, and wonderfully true to life, and she has that mysterious and important faculty known as 'stage presence,' the art of standing and moving and 'living' before an audience. This it is which first of all marks the experienced actress. Mr Grace as *Dean Jedd* was not in his most vigorous form, but none can help admiring his acting, the fruits of years of experience and careful training applied to natural talent. The same may be said of Mr Hawkins in the not much less prominent part of *Sir Tristram Mardon*, which he presented faultlessly. *Blore*, the sanctimonious butler, was portrayed by Capt. Burney in admirable style, which indicated the capable and indeed clever actor. It is difficult to say quite as much of the others, who were to some extent handicapped by the nature of their roles; for when the role is designed by the author on lines absolutely impossible in real life, as for instance the two officers of Hussars, the impersonation is bound to be untrue to nature. However, Dr Clarke was exceedingly funny, and Mr Manners was just as weak and wearisome as Mr Pinero seems to have intended. The parts assigned to Mrs Andrew and Miss Melbourne, the Dean's daughters, are exceedingly difficult to rescue from dulness, and the effort was not always successful, especially in the case of *Sheba*, who did not know her lines, and troubled the poor hard-worked prompter more than anybody else. Mrs Hawkins as the policeman's wife was excellent, and might with advantage have been given more to do. The policeman himself (Mr S. L. Darby) was conventional, somewhat grotesque, and was repeatedly applauded; very few actors ever succeed in looking or doing at all like genuine policemen, particularly in the walk, which has to be carefully cultivated. *Hatcham*, the groom (Mr Frowd) was faultless in his limited sphere and deserves high praise on every count.

A second performance is to be given to-morrow night, when there is sure to be a crowded house, as there was last night. There has been some word of a third performance, which it is to be hoped will be given.

W. ROBINSON and Co. make a special feature of Selling Pianos and Organs on the Easy-Payment system.

CRICKET.

HONGKONG C.C. v. THE UNITED SERVICES.

This match was concluded yesterday afternoon, and resulted in a win, by ten wickets for the Club. Playing out time, however, the Club (minus three of their best men) made a bad collapse. The following were the full scores:—

HONGKONG C.C.—FIRST INNINGS.

E. C. Ellis, b Green	45
R. H. Hancock, c Paley, b Alexander	40
C. M. Firth, c Alexander, b Vallings	66
F. Maitland, c Eccles, b Green	3
E. W. Maitland, c Dyson, b Vallings	12
A. S. Anton, c Hollond, b Green	5
E. A. Ram, b Green	6
J. R. Gillingham, c Oldham, b Vallings	18
T. S. Smith, not out	24
H. Arthur, b Alexander	3
B. P. Sheldon, c Campbell, b Vallings	3
Extras	9
Total	234

SECOND INNINGS.

Hancock, c Dyson, b Vallings	2
F. Maitland, st. Paley, b Vallings	0
E. W. Maitland, c Hollond, b Vallings	23
Anton, c Dyson, b Vallings	35
Ram, b Green	0
Gillingham, c sub., b Green	0
Arthur, b Green	0
Sheldon, c Dyson, b Green	6
Extras	2
Total	77

SERVICES.—FIRST INNINGS.

G. D. Campbell, H.K.R., c F. Maitland, b E. W. Maitland	12
S. E. Hollond, R.B., b Smith	0
Rev. G. Vallings, c Ellis, b Smith	28
Capt. Dyson, A.P.D., b Smith	6
Capt. Grafton, R.N., run out	7
Lieut. A. H. Oldham, R.N., b Smith	3
Capt. Eccles, R.B., c F. Maitland, b Hancock	39
Lieut. F. A. Powlett, R.N., c and b Smith	7
R. Alexander, R.B., not out	6
G. Paley, R.B., b Smith	0
Private Green, R.B., absent	—
Extras	3
Total	111

SECOND INNINGS.

G. D. Campbell, c F. Maitland, b E. W. Maitland	43
Capt. Eccles, c Gillingham, b Hancock	7
Rev. G. Vallings, b Hancock	11
S. E. Hollond, b Hancock	5
Capt. Dyson, c Smith, b Hancock	2
Capt. Grafton, c E. W. Maitland, b Hancock	10
R. Alexander, not out	31
Lieut. Oldham, b Hancock	2
Powlett, c and b E. W. Maitland	6
Paley, b Smith	6
Green, b Smith	5
Extras	22
Total	150

DAIRY FARM COMPANY, LIMITED.

The annual general meeting of shareholders in this Company was held to-day in Telegraph House. Mr G. Sharp presided, and there were also present Messrs S. G. Bird, E. Burnie (Directors), W. H. Potts (Secretary), G. C. Cox, W. H. Ray, A. Tillott, C. M. Adamson, S. L. Darby, G. H. Potts.

The Secretary read the notice of meeting.

The Chairman said—Gentlemen, we have called you together this time rather earlier than usual; I thought there was a certain appropriateness (as we had a good report to lay before you) in inviting you at about Christmas time, a time of general festivities. We have had a good year; we have proved the truth of the adage that all things are possible to wisely-directed diligence, and I hope you will be satisfied with what we have done. We have much to be thankful for to God's good providence in preserving the health and lives of our cattle, so that we have not suffered as some dairies in the North have done during the past year. All the employees of the Company have done their best; I think there has been a singularly happy and devoted spirit throughout our staff from the beginning to the close of the year, and I attribute no small portion of our success under God's good providence to the fidelity with which we have been served. (Applause.) Your directors have also laboured well. We are all sorry that Mr Machado should have resigned; he has done good work for the Company in the last three years. Our business is in some degree divided on account of the distance which intervenes between the Farm and the Town Office, and Mr Machado has taken especial care of the Town Office. He and Dr Noble have devoted themselves very diligently to the perfecting of the arrangements there, whilst Captain Burnie has been devoted to the work at the Farm. We have taken the opportunity this year to write down our property. Several persons have remarked that we had too much property and too few cows. This year we have more cows than we ever had before, and our property is put down at a lower figure than it ever was before, and therefore I hope the views of all will thereby be met. We are very glad indeed to be able to bring before you a good report, and when you have had an opportunity of asking any questions that you may like on the subject I will proceed to move its adoption.

There being no questions, the Chairman moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr Ray—Mr Chairman, I have much pleasure in seconding the motion, and I think the Directors may be very sincerely congratulated on the excellent result attained this year. I myself know the trouble they have had, from my experience during my connection with the Farm.

The motion was put and carried unanimously.

Mr Cox moved that Capt. Burnie and Dr Noble be re-elected Directors.

Mr Adamson seconded.

Agreed.

Capt. Tillett moved that Mr Bird's appointment as Director be confirmed.

Mr Ray seconded.

Agreed.

Capt. Burnie moved that Capt. Tillett be requested to accept a seat on the Board of Directors.

Mr Adamson seconded.

The Chairman—I have very much pleasure in saying that the Directors recommend that appointment to the shareholders, and I shall be very glad if those in favour of the same will hold up their hands.

Agreed.

Captain Tillett—Gentlemen, I beg to thank you for the honour you have done me, and I shall endeavour to assist the Board to the best of my power and ability.

Mr Darby moved the election of Mr Henderson as auditor.

Mr G. H. Potts seconded.

Agreed.

The Chairman—I hope Mr Henderson will be able to accept the appointment. I see by an advertisement that he is making some change in his arrangements, but I hope he will be still available for this service. I think, gentlemen, that is all we have to do. I am very much obliged to you for coming, because if you had not come we should not have been able to do anything; we have only just been able to do what we have done. Dividend warrants will be sent out in due course.

Mr Ray moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Carried.

This concluded the proceedings.

LOSS OF A JAPANESE CRUISER.

THIRTY LIVES LOST.

(*Special Telegram from Our Own Correspondent.*)

Shanghai, Friday, Dec. 27, 4.7 p.m.

The Japanese cruiser *Kohei*, known as the *Kwangping* before she was captured from the Chinese, has been lost off Kurashima Island.

The cruiser was returning from the Pescadores to Japan when lost.

Thirty of the crew were drowned. The Captain and one hundred and thirty men were saved.

THE RUSSIANS AT KYAUCHAO.

The Russian gunboat *Olevjni* (Captain Rodionoff) is now anchored at Kyauchau Bay.

RUSSIAN TROOPS REPORTED ON CHINESE TERRITORY.

It is reported from the North that Russian troops have crossed the river Ussuri, and that they are to winter on Chinese territory.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

[SUPPLIED TO THE 'CHINA MAIL.']

LONDON, December 25th, 1895.

TURKEY IN ASIA.

A Turkish official despatch states that a great battle was fought on Saturday between Turkish troops and the Druses, in which the latter lost 12,000 and the former 100.

The *Times*, commenting on the agitation in England in favour of the Armenians, urges the impossibility of Great Britain acting alone.

[This official Turkish despatch recalls to mind some of a similar nature which came from Chinese official sources during the China-Japan war. Twelve thousand Druses to one hundred Turks, if correct, means an abominable massacre; and as we know the Druses are a brave and industrious people, we decline to believe the figures. The Druses (who number over one hundred thousand) divide the possession of the Lebanon district with the Maronites, and for nearly half a century the Druses and the Maronites have maintained a consistent warfare with each other. Various attempts have been made by the European Powers to keep the peace between these tribes. What part these two tribes have taken in the recent upheaval does not seem to be so clear. The myth of a Christian Governor other them must have caused trouble, and the so-called annihilation of an eighth of the population, if correct, requires some explanation.—ED. *C. M.*]

(*From Tonkin Exchanges.*)

THE ITALIANS IN AFRICA.

PARIS, Dec. 18.

Premier Crispi has introduced a vote for twenty millions (lire) to carry on operations in Africa.

PARIS, Dec. 20.

The Italian Chamber has voted the credit asked for, but has pronounced against colonial expansion.

MADAGASCAR DECORATION.

PARIS, Dec. 20.

The French Chamber has created a medal for the Madagascar campaign.

THE ANGLO-AMERICAN TROUBLE.

Paris, Dec. 20.

Commenting on President Cleveland's Message, the press of Europe and America expresses a hope that an amicable understanding will be arrived at.

TRADE IN CHINA.

(*By a Cynical Chinese Government Employee.*)

Once in about every ten years Europe becomes convinced that China is going to turn over a new leaf, open up the whole empire to foreign commerce, do away with the many impediments to inland trade, and behave generally as we wish her to do, in order to give us a fair chance of filling our pockets. This illusion has been scattered time after time, but it returns whenever we fondly believe that China, through a defeat, has at last had her eyes opened to the hopelessness of keeping aloof from the comity of nations.

THE FAILURES OF FRANCE.

After the Tonkin affair, France persuaded China to insert an article in the treaty of peace, in which it was stipulated that China should buy railway plant and other materials from the former country, provided she could buy what she required in the French market at the same price as elsewhere. Such a stipulation, while useful as soother to those members of the Parliament as were opposed to Ferry's energetic politics in Indo-China, meant no more than that the Chinese would buy in the cheapest market, but on the strength of this 'monopoly' a powerful syndicate, counting some of the largest manufacturers in France among its members, was started, and in 1886 it sent a technical and commercial mission to Tientsin. It consisted of a director, secretaries, engineers, and clerks, with salaries ranging from 80,000f. down to 20,000f. They succeeded in obtaining a contract for building a dry-dock for men-of-war at Port Arthur. By this undertaking they lost some hundreds of thousands of francs, besides selling an enormous balloon, some bridges, and a couple of dredgers which the Chinese never succeeded in getting over the bar of the Yellow River, for which they were destined. The syndicate did nothing, and it was dissolved with a net loss of some millions of francs.

It is useful to study the failures of others, and in this case it is even important to do so, as no doubt China will some day be an excellent outlet for English trade.

With remarkable but somewhat misguided perseverance, France on the 18th of this month despatched a Mission d'Exploration Commerciale to China, which I suppose, will try to find out why previous attempts have failed, and prepare the way for a second syndicate. The mission has at its head Mr Boucher who first as an employee in the Chinese Maritime Customs, and later as French Consul, has had excellent opportunities of studying China and the Chinese; there is a 'secretaire général' and a lot of eminent specialists, one of whom is more particularly charged with the study of the Red River. The Chambers of Commerce of Marseilles, Bordeaux, Lille, &c. have each sent a representative. M. Lebon, Minister of Commerce, sent a telegram in the name of the Government, speeding the mission on its way. They will make a capital report, draw the most logical conclusions from what they have learned, recommend some kind of semi-official organization of French trade in China, and then, when enough money has been lost, the thing will be dropped for another decade. Of course we shall again hear that English intrigue ruined the venture.

THE GAINS OF GERMANY.

For some years there has been a certain number of English traders in China who desire that her Majesty's Government through its Minister and Consuls should support their individual efforts in promoting their business, seeing that during late years German trade has developed so remarkably, and that China is now practically buying all her war materials in Germany, or, more correctly, from Krupp. They attribute this success to the active support given by the German Minister and Consuls, not only to trade in general, but more especially to certain large firms, in obtaining orders from the Government. That they have succeeded in this is certain, but it is not reasonable to jump from this to the conclusion that the increase in the general trade of Germany with China is due to this semi-official patronage. Englishmen have, owing to their undisputed supremacy in the iron, cotton, and other trades, come to look upon any check to this supremacy as due to extraneous influence, and are naturally loth to admit that foreign countries such as Germany and Belgium have in some way improved upon those methods by which Great Britain has so long ruled the markets of the world. It goes with trade and industries as with military science, a campaign won should only be an inducement to further exertions, and one must never rest on laurels won and imagine that the tactics which were the best yesterday must necessarily be so to-morrow if circumstances change; this is one of the hardest truths to recognize and to apply judiciously. It is so tempting to say, 'German trade in China has been in every way aided by official support, and, more especially, Mr von Brandt, during his long tenure of office in Pekin, did all in his power to prove to China that if she would only give the preference in matters of trade to his countrymen, Germany would always be willing to back her up diplomatically if Russia or France became too aggressive. German trade with China having increased to such an extent, what, then, is more logical than to infer that this result was in part accomplished by German diplomacy?' If, however, any one will examine what proportion official purchases bear to general trade he will find that it is very small—big enough, it is true, to enrich a few individuals, but not to materially affect a country's trade.

It is evident that the Foreign Office in Berlin considers it one of its most important duties to do all in its power to further German trade interests in all parts of the world, and it is difficult to see anything but an instance of this in Germany's adhesion to Russia's and France's protest against Japan's acquiring territory on the mainland of China. That Germany in doing so made an enemy of Japan would not matter, because 40,000,000 Japs could not consume so many products from the Fatherland as 300,000,000 Celestials could. Germany has rightly seen that her natural poverty cannot support her present greatness if she cannot peacefully conquer a large part of the world's trade. At the exposition at Philadelphia, less than twenty years ago, the German Commissioner, Rouleaux, I believe, reported to his Government that the exhibits of his country might be characterized as 'billig und schlecht' (cheap and nasty), but from that day German manufacturers have seen that the policy of producing inferior imitations of English goods and thereby under-selling them might be successful for a short period, although it could not serve as a basis for an extensive trade with foreign countries.

THE LESSON TO GREAT BRITAIN.

Every day we see in the English press fears regarding French enterprise in Asia and Africa, with its consequent injury to English trade; but it is really not worthy of Englishmen's wrath, and much less of their fear, to look at French commercial and military expeditions in uncivilized countries as anything more than a subsequent outlet for British enterprise. If profound study of these countries and logical conclusions as to the best methods of securing their trade sufficed, France would long ago have ruled the world commercially, but even if Frenchmen time after time can deceive themselves it is absurd that cool-headed Britons should be jealous of French enterprise. It is the blowing of trumpets whenever France goes anywhere that offends Englishmen, and makes them feel uneasy, while the unostentatious German in his efforts to find a place for himself scarcely makes his presence felt until he has succeeded, when the matter-of-fact Briton calmly looks at the 'fait accompli' without thinking of protesting. Having visited Saigon and Tonkin, one sees how little France has gained commercially for herself, and one feels inclined to agree with Daudet in believing that the views of Tartarin de Tarascon on 'le haut commerce' are those of Frenchmen generally, or, as he says, 'en France, tout le monde est un de Tarascon.' France has, no doubt, a very fine industry, and produces very artistic and highly finished articles, but while Germany tries to cater for the native taste, France does not go out of her way to produce things below her own high standard. From Germany's success and France's failures England can learn much; but above everything, England's supremacy in trade can best be maintained by vigorous foreign policy, and if she would force the Pekin Government to keep strictly to her treaties an enormous extension of British trade would be the result.—*Singapore Free Press.*

THE death is announced, at Richmond, Surrey, on November 20, of Mr Alexander Rodyk, late Registrar of the Supreme Court, Penang. The deceased was in his 91st year, and has held a pension from the Indian Government since 1869.

PIANOFORTES tuned—Singly or by yearly contract—High class work—W. Robinson and Co.

AMONG the New Year honours (says the London correspondent of the *Manchester Courier*) will figure the names of two members of Parliament who have rendered signal service to commerce. Sir Donald Currie will receive a peerage, while a similar distinction will be offered to Sir John Pender.

A YEAR'S imprisonment each has just been given to two Chinamen at Shanghai, for defacing two Chartered Bank notes, of $5 and $1 value, so as to make them appear of the value of $500 and $100 respectively, and for passing them, well knowing them to be below their value, thereby defrauding the complainants, viz., two Chinese bankers, of the amounts named, in Tiendong-road on the 19th December.—*Mercury.*

RACHALS' PIANOS—The finest in the World—Touch and tone unequalled. Sole Agents, W. Robinson and Co.

ANECDOTES OF AMATEUR ACTORS.

Mr George Alexander's lecture on 'Amateur Acting,' before the Leeds Amateur Dramatic Society on Friday, was full of 'good things':—I assume that your Dramatic Society resembles all its kindred institutions as well as the regular stage in the fact that all your actors and actresses are willing, nay surely eager, to play the smallest and the worst parts in the piece. It was always so, and it is one of the greatest troubles with which the theatrical manager and the amateur club have to contend. As an exception that proves this rule, I call to mind a singularly constituted amateur who always wanted to play the leading part. Somehow it happened that the committee of selection did not rate his talent at his own estimation, and inconsiderately cast him for the part of a servant who had several announcements to make during the play. He was exceedingly jealous of the gentleman who was playing the love part with the 'leading lady,' and two or three times during the evening, and in the midst of their most important scenes, he, without any rhyme or reason, rushed on the stage and announced that 'luncheon was served.' (Laughter.) This, I am afraid, did not help the sentiment of the scene, and if he followed up the stage as a profession I should think that he is now playing 'First Villains.' Then there are some amateurs who require a good deal of inspiration from their surroundings. I remember the case of a rather stout gentleman who was rehearsing a character in a play called 'The Lighthouse.' He was supposed to be starving. It was a scenic rehearsal, and the professional coach was finding a little fault with his attempt to realise the situation. He turned to him and said, 'How can I give you the idea that I am starving, when there is a ham and pickles painted on the scene?' Another amateur had such a keen sense of the artistic requirements of a part in 'The Wreck Ashore,' that when he was supposed to be shot off the stage, he invariably went through all the agonies of death, though entirely out of sight of the audience. (Laughter.) I have another recollection of an amateur club, whose most ambitious member was made supremely happy by the announcement that he had been cast for the part of Henry Dunbar in the piece bearing that title. Naturally, thinking that it was the part of the piece, he set to work at once, devoted night and day to study, and long before the date of the first rehearsal was word-perfect. He came to that rehearsal anxious but hopeful, feeling that his great chance had at last come. Imagine, then, his disgust when he discovered that Joseph Wentworth, who passed himself off as Henry Dunbar, was the real hero of the piece, while he, the unfortunate amateur, had as the real Henry Dunbar, next to nothing to do but to be carried on at the end of the first act covered by a sheet, in the uninviting role of the corpse of a murdered man. (Laughter.) Such are the ups and downs of the amateur actor's life.—*Westminster Budget.*

NEWS BY THE AUSTRALIAN MAIL.

RAILWAY FROM MANDALAY TO THE BURMAH FRONTIER.

London, Nov. 27.—Great Britain has decided to construct a railway from Mandalay, the capital of Burmah, to Kunlon, on the Burmese frontier, a distance of 260 miles, in order to prevent a monopoly by the French of the trade of the Chinese province of Yunnan.

THE BRITISH BUDGET.

London, Nov. 27.—It is expected that the British Budget will show a surplus of £6,000,000.

CHARGE OF FRAUD AGAINST A MILITARY OFFICER.

Melbourne, Nov. 28.—The Government intends to bear half the cost of securing the extradition of Lieutenant Baker, lately of the Permanent Staff, for whose arrest, on a charge of fraud, a warrant was issued yesterday. Baker is supposed to be on his way to England. The alleged frauds total nearly £2000.

TERRIFIC STORMS IN SOUTH RUSSIA.

London, Nov. 28.—Disastrous storms have occurred in the South of Russia. Many ports on the Black Sea were submerged by floods, and coasting vessels were sunk. It is estimated that the damage on land will amount to 40,000,000 roubles. Eighty persons were killed.

THE FRENCH WAR DEPARTMENT.

London, Nov. 27.—General Saussier, Governor of Paris, and Vice-president of the French Council of War, has resigned, in consequence of disputes with M. Cavaignac, Minister for War in the French Cabinet.

THE LIBERATOR FRAUDS—COMMENTS OF THE JUDGE.

London, Nov. 28.—Jabez Spencer Balfour, who had been found guilty on two charges of fraud in connection with the Liberator Building Society, was brought up for sentence to-day in the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice. In passing sentence the Judge said: 'This was the master-mind which had planned the frauds by which he had obtained millions from his victims. The other prisoners who had been convicted with him were merely his tools.' Balfour was sentenced to 14 years' penal servitude. He received his sentence quite unmoved. George E. Brock, one of the directors, and Morrell Theobald, one of the auditors, who were found guilty of being concerned in the issue of false balance-sheets, were also sentenced. The former received nine months' and the latter four months' imprisonment. The court and its approaches were thronged, and the greatest excitement prevailed when the sentences were made known in the street. The announcement was received with cheers. The Crown will not proceed with the other charges arising out of the frauds.

WRECK OF A BRAZILIAN WARSHIP—COMMANDER DROWNED.

London, Nov. 28.—The Brazilian warship *Uranus* has been wrecked. The commander and five of the crew were drowned.

THE KING OF ITALY TO VISIT ENGLAND.

London, Nov. 28.—King Humbert and Queen Margherita, of Italy, will visit England during the spring of 1896.

ITALY AND ABYSSINIA.

London, Nov. 29.—In replying to a question in the Italian Chamber of Deputies, Baron Albert Blanc, Minister for Foreign Affairs, said that the policy of extending the colonial possessions of Italy was now founded on a firm basis. They had annexed Tigre on the Abyssinian frontier, and had fortified the frontier. No European Power would intervene on behalf of King Menelik of Abyssinia, and the chiefs of Ethiopia were supporting the Italians.

AUSTRALIAN WATERLILIES TO THE QUEEN.

London, Nov. 28.—The Queen has received the bouquet of the giant waterlily of Queensland (Nymphæa gigantea) sent home for presentation to her Majesty by Messrs Searl and Sons, florists, of King-street, Sydney.

The Queen greatly admired the blooms, and has sent her thanks to Messrs Searl and Sons for the present.

The giant waterlily sent home to the Queen by Messrs Searl and Sons was frozen in a block of ice weighing 8cwt., and forwarded to London by the Orient liner *Ophir*, which left Sydney on 15th July. On arrival of the *Ophir* in London the block of ice containing the bouquet was placed in a cool store for presentation to the Queen on her return to Windsor, her Majesty being at the time in the Highlands.

NEW COLONIAL GOVERNORS—DISTINCTIONS CONFERRED.

London, Nov. 22.—Lord Lamington (Governor-elect of Queensland) and Lieutenant-Colonel Gerard Smith (the newly-appointed Governor of Western Australia) have been created Knights Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George (K.C.M.G.).

THE TRIAL OF MAJOR LOTHAIRE.

London, Nov. 23.—The Belgian Government has refused the request of the Congo Independent State that the trial of Major Lothaire for the summary execution of Mr Stokes, the British trader, should be by court-martial. The ivory which was in the possession of Mr Stokes at the time of his execution has arrived at the coast. It is valued at £40,000.

MOSLEM POPULATION OF INDIA.

London, Nov. 22.—In replying to an address presented to him by representatives of the Moslem population of India the Viceroy (the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine) said that all doubts must be removed from their minds regarding their treatment at the hands of the authorities. They must only expect the Government to make efforts to serve the best interests of the Empire.

THE NICARAGUA CANAL.

London, Nov. 26.—The Commission appointed by the United States Government to inquire into the question of the construction of the Nicaragua Canal has presented a report. It estimates the cost of the canal at 134,000,000 dollars. The Commission advises further inquiry.

THE RUSSIAN PEASANTRY.

London, Nov. 26.—The Czar has issued an order for the abolition of corporal punishment amongst the peasantry in the Russian provinces.

THE PACIFIC CABLE.

London, Nov. 25.—In an article upon the proposed Pacific cable the *Times* says it is urgent that the colonies should select the ablest men available to act as delegates upon the commission to be appointed by Mr Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, to consider the whole question of the proposed Pacific cable. It declares that Mr Chamberlain has requested that tenders should be called for the laying of a cable across the Atlantic before he decides on the method of affording assistance on the part of the British Government. In regard to the proposed fast mail service via Canada, Mr Chamberlain demands increased railway speed to and from Vancouver, and will not aid the Canadian Pacific Railway Company beyond paying the poundage on mails, holding that this is a local section of the service.

THE IRISH PARTIES.

London, Nov. 25.—The members of the Parnellite section of the Irish party threaten that unless certain of their demands are granted they will continuously obstruct the business of Parliament.

RABIES IN ENGLAND.

London, Nov. 29.—The disease of rabies is prevailing around London. A mad dog bit 11 children at Sudbury, 16 miles south-west of London.

ANOTHER CHINESE LOAN.

London, Nov. 25.—China is parleying with Great Britain and Germany for the issue of a loan of 100,000,000 taels (about £20,000,000). The French are furious at their exclusion from the issue.

THEATRICAL DIVORCE SUIT.

London, Nov. 25.—In the Divorce Court to-day the decree nisi made in the case of Rogers v. Rogers, a petition for divorce by the husband from his wife, better known as Minnie Palmer, the actress, on the ground of adultery, was made absolute.

SUGAR BEET.

London, Nov. 25.—Herr Licht, the Magdeburgh expert upon sugar beet, estimates that the two months' production of sugar beet shows a decrease of 12,000 tons. His estimate for the campaign is unaltered.

RULE OF THE ROAD AT SEA.

London, Nov. 25.—A committee, presided over by Sir Francis Jeune, President of the Probate, Divorce, and Admiralty Division of the High Court of Justice, which has been considering the question of the rule of the road at sea, has reported in favour of cancelling the Board of Trade rule on the subject.

BRITISH GUIANA AND VENEZUELA.

London, Nov. 26.—The Venezuelan Commander-in-Chief has protested against the action of the British authorities in despatching Maxim guns to the Venezuelan frontier in connection with the boundary dispute with British Guiana. The colonial authorities have replied that the guns were sent for the purposes of defence, and not for aggression.

Nov. 28.—The Governors of the States forming the republic of Venezuela have assured General Crespo, the President, that, in the event of war with England being declared, they can place 100,000 troops in the field.

SCOTTISH ECCLESIASTICAL NEWS.

London, Nov. 21.—Dr Archibald Scott, Minister of St. George's Church, Edinburgh, has been elected Moderator of the Established Church of Scotland.

London, Nov. 25.—The Rev. W. Miller, LL.D., has been re-elected Moderator of the Free Church of Scotland.

GALES IN THE ENGLISH CHANNEL.

London, Nov. 26.—Owing to a heavy easterly gale, the Channel steamboat service is suspended. Many casualties have occurred in the Channel, and in several cases lives have been lost.

MR GEORGE DU MAURIER'S NEW NOVEL.

London, Nov. 24.—Messrs Harper and Brothers, the well-known publishers of Franklin-square, New York, have paid £10,000 to Mr George du Maurier, the author of 'Peter Ibbetson' and 'Trilby,' for a new novel which is to be published shortly.

THE MARINE ENGINEERS' STRIKE.

London, Nov. 26.—It is reported that owing to the strike in the shipbuilding yards on the Clyde and at Belfast, Germany has secured the orders for the construction of new ironclads for the Japanese Government, which were intended to have been given to British shipbuilding firms.

London, Nov. 29.—The Lord Provost of Glasgow is interesting himself in the strike with a view to a settlement of the difficulty. He is endeavouring to arrange a conference between the employers and the representatives of the men on strike. If such a meeting can be arranged there is a prospect of a settlement.

THE ASHANTEE EXPEDITION—PROSPECTS OF A FIGHT.

London, Nov. 28.—The friendly princes of Ashantee have undertaken to provide 10,000 native carriers for the use of the British expedition to Coomassie, in the transport of stores, &c. King Prempeh defies the British to attack Coomassie.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.

London, Nov. 23.—A destructive fire took place at Chelmsford, Essex, to-day. The great works of the Crompton Electric Supply Company, electric light engineers, &c., were destroyed. The damage is estimated at £100,000.

A disastrous fire has occurred in Chicago, by which the premises of 19 business firms were destroyed. The damage is estimated at over a million dollars.

Nov. 24.—A disastrous fire has occurred at Unwin's Painting Works, at Guildford, in Surrey. The works, including the crypt, were completely destroyed. The damage is estimated at £50,000.

FRANCE AND MADAGASCAR.

London, Nov. 26.—The secret convention entered into between France and Madagascar places foreigners in Madagascar under French tribunals, directly the Powers renounce the capitulations.

November 28.—Madagascar, which is now virtually a French colony, has been placed under the control of M. Guieysse, Minister for the Colonies. The refusal of M. Bourgeois, the Premier, to institute an inquiry into the conduct of the expedition to Madagascar has greatly irritated the Radicals, Tories, and Socialists in the Chamber of Deputies.

Nov. 28.—Replying to a question in the French Chamber of Deputies, M. Berthelot, Minister for Foreign Affairs, said that no difficulty with foreign nations need arise with regard to Madagascar. It was intended to adhere to the agreements entered into with the other Powers, and to follow international law regarding the existing treaties between the Hovas and other nations. Queen Ranavalona III. would retain her dignity, and the native officials would continue to administer the government of the country. The Chamber of Deputies declined to agree to a proposal for the appointment of a committee to inquire into the management of the late war in Madagascar. M. Bourgeois, the Premier, declared that the Government would apportion the blame where it thought fit.

THE SITUATION IN TURKEY.

London, Nov. 27.—The carrying out of reforms in the Asiatic provinces of the Turkish Empire will be conducted by six judiciary inspectors, and those in the European provinces by three inspectors. The Armenians claim that the late Turkish raids in Anatolia resulted in a loss to the Armenian population of 10,000,000 Turkish lira. Great activity is being displayed in connection with the Russian naval forces in the Black Sea. The fleet is loading stores and munitions of war. The operations are being directed by leading officers from St. Petersburg.

November 28.—The *Daily News* states that the Turks have mobilised 60,000 troops in Syria and Palestine. The soldiers are carrying green flags, which serve to indicate that a holy war has been entered upon for the repression of the Druses, or Christian tribes of the Lebanon district.

THE SCULLING CHAMPIONSHIP.

London, Nov. 24.—Hanlan has won the fourth heat at the Austin regatta, Texas, U.S., for the sculling championship of America, defeating George Bubear, the ex-champion of England. In the first heat Hanlan defeated Bubear by several lengths. Bubear won the second and third heats.

Later.—Hanlan has won the sculling championship of America.

A DEFENCE Bill has been introduced in the South Australian Assembly which provides that every man from 18 to 45 years of age who is a British subject resident in the colony for six months shall be liable to active service.

IT is now reported, the *Manchester Guardian* says, that there is a great probability of the Duke and Duchess of York paying their visit to Australasia at the close of the next London Session. The Colonial Office authorities will, it is understood, shortly commence to make preparations to this end, and if the visit be really arranged, it may be taken for granted that Mr Chamberlain has had not a little to do with it.

ADMIRAL Richard Bulkeley Pearse died on 19th November in his 65th year. During the China War of 1858-60 he commanded the *Acorn*, and was present at the destruction of a large piratical town north of Amoy, and of another near Swatow, for the latter of which he received the thanks of the English and French Ministers and the Chinese mandarins. The late Admiral had received the Arctic, Burmese, Baltic, and China medals.

AT the fifty-fifth annual meeting of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, to be held on 12th December, the directors, after providing for the usual dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on the preferred stock, were to recommend a dividend on the stock of 6½ per cent. for the six months, making, with the interim dividend of 3½ per cent. paid in June, a total distribution on the deferred stock of 10 per cent. for the year.

WITH reference to the decision of the Board of Revenue during the war last year, three-tenths of salaries paid to civil and military officials were deducted to support the war fund. According to the *Sinwanpao*, the high ministers at Peking have altered the project, and have sent despatches to the financial commissioners of the various provinces that all officials should receive the same salary as they did previous to the war last year. This is due to the request of Wang Wenshao, Viceroy of Chili, who memorialised the throne that unless the officials received their former pay they would try to make money through improper means, so as to keep up their position. The throne has decided in the affirmative.—*Mercury.*

A NAVAL friend in high authority, whose name we shall not take the liberty to specify, writes thus privately by this mail: 'The recent 'reinforcement to the Channel Squadron is but one sign out of many observable in the corridors of the Admiralty of a set determination to be prepared to take our part in the coming struggle, if it cannot be averted, in a way worthy of our traditions; and there is a feeling of critical times at hand, a sort of general impression that we are uncommonly close to war. In the Service Clubs and the Messes the impression is gathering force as news spreads of movements of a serious tendency in the War Office and Admiralty to hasten precautions and provide for tactical and strategical developments at the shortest notice.' —*Singapore Free Press.*

CAPTAIN Maclure, who arrives in this country next week, has (says a correspondent of the *Liverpool Post*) been commissioned by the Chinese Government to give extensive shipbuilding orders. The Government in Peking has determined to create a strong navy, and is prepared to spend a large sum in providing itself with a new fleet. Mr Maclure is authorised, it is understood, to place orders in this country for ironclads, armed cruisers, and torpedo-boats. It will take years, of course, to provide a navy such as the Chinese Government desires, and if that work be secured for this country it will give employment to yards on the Clyde, the Mersey, and the Tyne for a long time to come. There is, however, a great risk that, in consequence of the struggle now raging on the Clyde and at Belfast, a part, if not the whole, of the work may go past this country altogether.

BANJOES, Guitars, Mandolines, Autoharps, Violins, also Strings and fittings for sale at W. Robinson and Co.

Practical Engineer, 10s. per annum, post free to all parts of the world.
Practical Engineer Pocket-book for 1896, Greatly enlarged. 1s. 3d., post free.
Practical Engineer. 2d. weekly. Original articles every week by practical men. 6, Victoria Approach, Manchester.

Mails.

NORTHERN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP AND RAILROAD COMPANIES.

VIA INLAND SEA OF JAPAN.

THE attention of Passengers is directed to the very cheap rates offered by this Line to the PACIFIC COAST and to the INTERIOR and EASTERN CITIES of the UNITED STATES and CANADA and to EUROPE.

HONGKONG TO LONDON, $400. Excellent accommodation. First-class Table. DOCTOR and STEWARDESS carried.

HONGKONG TO NEW YORK, $350. The Railroad travelling is second to none on the American Continent. Magnificent Scenery of the ROCKY and CASCADE MOUNTAINS. The YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK route. Passengers to EUROPE may proceed by one of the first class ATLANTIC MAIL LINES.

HONGKONG TO TACOMA, $225. Rates of Passage to other Points on application.

Special rates allowed to members of Government Services.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG. (SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.)

Hankow	3,594	Saturday	Dec. 28.
Tacoma	2,549	Tuesday	Jan. 14.
Victoria	3,167	Tuesday	Feb. 11.
Hankow	3,594	Tuesday	Mar. 10.
Tacoma	2,549	Tuesday	April 7.

THE Steamship *HANKOW*, Captain ORR, sailing at Daylight, TO-MORROW, the 28th December, will proceed to SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, VICTORIA, B.C., and TACOMA, Wash. Through Bills of Lading issued for Pacific Coast Points, and to Canadian and United States Points.

Consular Invoices of Goods for United States Points should be in quadruplicate, and *one copy must be sent forward by the steamer* to the care of The Freight Agent, Northern Pacific Railroad Tacoma, Wash.

Parcels must be sent to our Office (with address marked in full) by 5 p.m., on the day previous to sailing.

For further information as to Passage or Freight, apply to

DODWELL, CARLILL & Co., *Agents.*

Hongkong, December 27, 1895. 2258

STEAM FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA, ADEN, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.

Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULF, CONTINENTAL AND AMERICAN PORTS.

THE Steamship *ROSETTA*, Captain G. K. WRIGHT, R.N.R., carrying Her Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this for BOMBAY and LONDON, on THURSDAY, the 2nd January, 1896, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports.

Silk and Valuables, all Cargo for France, and Tea for London (under arrangement); will be transhipped at Colombo into a steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London; other Cargo for London, &c., will be conveyed *vid* Bombay.

Parcels will be received at this Office until 4 p.m. on the day before sailing. The contents and value of all packages are required.

Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Bills of Lading.

For further Particulars, apply to

ALF. WOOLLEY, *Acting Superintendent.*

P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office, Hongkong, December 19, 1895. 2400

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

NOTICE.

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, NAPLES, GENOA, ANTWERP, BREMEN & HAMBURG, PORTS IN THE LEVANT, BLACK SEA & BALTIC PORTS;

ALSO, LONDON, NEW YORK, BOSTON, BALTIMORE, NEW ORLEANS, GALVESTON & SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS.

THE COMPANY'S STEAMERS WILL CALL AT SOUTHAMPTON TO LAND PASSENGERS AND LUGGAGE.

N.B.—Cargo can be taken on through Bills of Lading for the principal places in RUSSIA.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG. SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

Sachsen	Monday	January 6.
Karlsruhe	Monday	February 3.
Prinz Heinrich	Tuesday	March 3.
Preussen	Tuesday	March 31.
Sachsen	Tuesday	April 28.
Karlsruhe	Tuesday	May 26.
Prinz Heinrich	Tuesday	June 23.

ON MONDAY, the 6th day of January, 1896, at 3 p.m., the Company's S.S. *SACHSEN*, Captain H. SUPPER, with MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE, and CARGO, will leave this port as above, calling at NAPLES and GENOA.

Shipping Orders will be granted till Noon, on SATURDAY, the 4th January. Cargo and Specie will be received on board until Noon, on MONDAY, the 6th January. (Parcels will be received at the Agency's Office) until Noon, on SUNDAY, the 5th January. Contents of Packages are required. No Parcel Receipts will be signed for less than $2.50, and Parcels should not exceed Two Feet Cubic in measurement.

The Steamer has splendid Accommodation and carries a Doctor and Stewardess.

Linen can be washed on board.

For further Particulars, apply to

MELCHERS & Co., *Agents.*

Hongkong, December 12, 1895. 2349

Mails.

U. S. Mail Line.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

VIA INLAND SEA OF JAPAN AND HONOLULU.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

City of Rio de Janeiro (via Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea and Yokohama)	SATURDAY, Jan. 4, 1896, at daylight.
City of Peking (via Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea and Yokohama)	SATURDAY, Jan. 25, 1896, at noon.
China (via Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama and Honolulu)	SATURDAY, Feb. 8, 1896, at noon.

THE U. S. Mail Steamship *CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO* will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO, *vid* NAGASAKI, KOBE, INLAND SEA and YOKOHAMA, on SATURDAY, the 4th January, 1896, at Daylight, taking Passengers and Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe.

Steamers of this line pass through the INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, and call at HONOLULU, and passengers are allowed to break their journey at any point *en route*.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers, and to the principal cities of the United States or Canada. Rates may be obtained on application.

Passengers holding through ORDERS TO EUROPE have the choice of the Overland Rail routes from San Francisco, including the SOUTHERN PACIFIC, CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC, DENVER and RIO GRANDE and NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAYS; also the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY on payment of £4 in addition to the regular tariff rate.

Passengers holding orders FOR OVERLAND CITIES in the United States have, between San Francisco and Chicago, the option of the SOUTHERN PACIFIC, CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC, DENVER and RIO GRANDE and other direct connecting Railways, and from Chicago to destination, the choice of direct lines.

Particulars of the various routes can be had on application.

Special rates (first class only) are granted to Missionaries, members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic, and Civil Services, to European officials in service of China and Japan, and to Government officials and their families.

Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco, to Atlantic and Inland Cities of the United States, *via* Overland Railway, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers.

Freight will be received on board until 4 p.m. the day previous to sailing. Parcel Packages will be received at the office until 5 p.m., same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to points beyond San Francisco in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Offices in Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco.

For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 7, Praya Central.

J. S. VAN BUREN, *Agent.*

Hongkong, December 23, 1895. 2381

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOTS POSTE FRANCAIS.

STEAM FOR SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, COLOMBO, PONDICHERRY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA PORTS, ALEXANDRIA, MARSEILLES, LONDON, HAVRE AND BORDEAUX;

ALSO PORTS OF BRAZIL AND LA PLATA.

ON WEDNESDAY, the 8th January, 1896, at Noon, the Company's S.S. *OXUS*, Commandant DUPONT, with MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE, and CARGO, will leave this Port for the above places.

Cargo and Specie will be registered for London as well as for Marseilles, and accepted in transit through Marseilles for the principal places of Europe.

Shipping Orders will be granted till Noon.

Cargo will be received on board until 4 p.m.; Specie and Parcels until 3 p.m. on the 7th January, 1896. (Parcels are not to be sent on board; they must be left at the Agency's Office).

Contents and value of Packages are required.

For further particulars, apply at the Company's Office.

C. TOURNAIRE, *Acting Agent.*

Hongkong, December 26, 1895. 2340

Insurances.

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

TOTAL FUNDS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1894, £11,671,018 2s. 2d.

Authorized Capital	£3,000,000.0.0
Subscribed Capital	£2,750,000.0.0
Paid-up Capital	£687,500.0.0
Fire Funds	£2,410,992.7.3
Revenue Fire Branch	£1,546,856.18.7

HAVING been appointed AGENTS of the above Company we are prepared to Accept EUROPEAN and CHINESE RISKS at Current Rates.

SHEWAN & Co., *Agents.*

13 July, 1895. 1300

UNION ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

(*Instituted in the Reign of Queen Anne A.D. 1714.*)

CAPITAL FULLY SUBSCRIBED, £450,000.
CAPITAL PAID UP, £180,000.
TOTAL INVESTED FUNDS EXCEED £2,619,000.
TOTAL ANNUAL INCOME, £774,646.

THE Undersigned, having been appointed AGENT of the above Society in Hongkong, is prepared to issue Policies against FIRE on the usual terms.

HARRY WICKING, *Praya Central.*

1481

Shipping.

Steamers.

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SHANGHAI.

The Steamship *Kaifong*, Captain DEWAR, will be despatched on SATURDAY, the 28th Instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, *Agents.*

Hongkong, December 26, 1895. 2441

SHIRE LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

The Steamship *Merionethshire*, Captain DAVIES, will be despatched as above on or about SATURDAY, the 28th Instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DODWELL, CARLILL & Co., *Agents.*

Hongkong, December 21, 1895. 2417

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAIWANFOO.

The Co.'s Steamship *Thales*, Capt. BATHURST, will be despatched for the above Ports on SUNDAY, the 29th Instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co., *General Managers.*

Hongkong, December 26, 1895. 2437

FOR CHEFOO *VIA* SHANGHAI.

(*Taking Cargo at through rates to* HANKOW, NEWCHWANG, KIUKIANG *and Ports on the* YANGTSZE).

The Steamship *Fuping*, Capt. LEHMANN, will be despatched for the above Ports on SUNDAY, the 29th Instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

CARLOWITZ & Co., *Agents.*

Hongkong, December 23, 1895. 2423

SHELL LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR GENOA AND MARSEILLES.

The Co.'s Steamship *Clam*, Capt. D. T. DAVIS, will be despatched as above on or about the 30th Instant.

For Freight, apply to

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co., *Agents.*

Hongkong, December 12, 1895. 2348

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.

The Steamship *Catherine Apcar*, Capt. J. G. OLIFENT, will be despatched for the above Ports on TUESDAY, the 31st Inst., at 3 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co., *Agents.*

Hongkong, December 26, 1895. 2443

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR NEW YORK *VIA* SUEZ CANAL.

The Co.'s Steamship *Polyphemus*, Captain TOODWIN, will be despatched as above on or about the 12th January.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, *Agents.*

Hongkong, December 24, 1895. 2430

GLEN LINE OF STEAM PACKETS.

FOR LONDON *VIA* SUEZ CANAL.

The Steamship *Glenfarg*, Captain SELBY, will be despatched as above on or about FRIDAY, the 17th January.

This Steamer has Superior Accommodation for Passengers, and carries a Doctor and Stewardess.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., *Agents.*

Hongkong, December 19, 1895. 2399

Sailing Vessels.

FOR BALTIMORE.

The *A.1.I.* American Barque *Amy Turner*, Capt. WARLAND, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to

SIEMSSEN & Co.

Hongkong, December 11, 1895. 2338

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

The 100 *A.1.* British Ship *Brodick Castle*, FERGUSON, Master, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to

SHEWAN & Co.

Hongkong, December 5, 1895. 2377

FOR NEW YORK.

The 3/3 *A.1.I.* American Ship *John R. Kelly*, Capt. CHAPMAN, having arrived, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.

Hongkong, November 21, 1895. 2172

Not Responsible for Debts.

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor Owners will be Responsible for any Debt contracted by the Officers or Crew of the following Vessels, during their stay in Hongkong Harbour:—

JOHN BAILEY, Amer. barquentine, Capt. F. P. Shepherd.—Captain.

To Let.

TO LET.

1ST FLOOR of No. 12, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, suitable for OFFICES or DWELLING ROOMS.

No. 2, DUDDELL STREET, suitable for OFFICES or DWELLING ROOMS.

No. 6, UPPER MOSQUE TERRACE, 4 ROOMS, Water and Gas laid on.

No. 25, MOSQUE STREET.

Apply to

LINSTEAD & DAVIS.

Hongkong, November 30, 1895. 2223

TO LET.

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Hongkong, December 21, 1895. 261

TO LET.

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Hongkong, December 4, 1895. 2264

TO LET.

'LARKSPUR,' UPPER RICHMOND ROAD. Seven Rooms and Tennis Lawn.

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Hongkong, November 5, 1895. 2069

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Hongkong, January 5, 1895. 38

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Hongkong, November 24, 1894. 1907

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65.—Blackhead, F., Residence.
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11.—Club, Hongkong.
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D
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17.—Douglas Lapraik & Co.

E
58.—Electric Co.
58A.—Electric Co., Residence.

F
74.—Fletcher & Co.

G
48.—Gas Co., East Point.
47.— Do. West Point.
31.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.
6.—Godown Co., Office.
21.—Godown, Kerosine.
7.—Godown, Kowloon.
33.— Do. West Point.
44.—Government House.

H
50.—Harbour Office.
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68.—Humphreys & Son.

K
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64.— Do. do. Horse Repository.
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122.—MacCallum, J., Residence.
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125.—Nam Tai Hong.
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119.—Opium Factory.
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19.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
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R
34.—Ray, E. C., Residence.
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103.—R. E. Guard Room.
104.—R. E. Mess.
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52.—Sailors' Home.
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Intimations.

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The only Shop in Hongkong with this name Where HIGH-CLASS FURNITURE of every description can be made to order in any design required.

Has been patronised by the Hongkong Club, Hongkong Hotel, Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ld., and other leading Establishments in the Colony, to whom reference may be made as to the Superior Workmanship and Materials of the Furniture, &c., supplied.

Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co. write as follows:—

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Hongkong, April 13, 1895. 712

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THIS Commodious and Well-appointed HOTEL, situated at a height of 1,250 feet above sea-level, has just been thoroughly re-decorated, renovated and re-furnished, and a NEW WING has been built, which commands magnificent Views of the Harbour and mainland of China.

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One person, per day	$3 to $3.50
One person, per week	20.00
One person, per month	60.00
Married couple (occupying one room) per day	5.00
Married couple (occupying one room) per month	110.00
Married couple (occupying two rooms) per month ...	$120 to 130.00
Extra Bedroom, per month	20.00
Extra Bedroom, per day	1.50

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Hongkong, October 10, 1895. 1802

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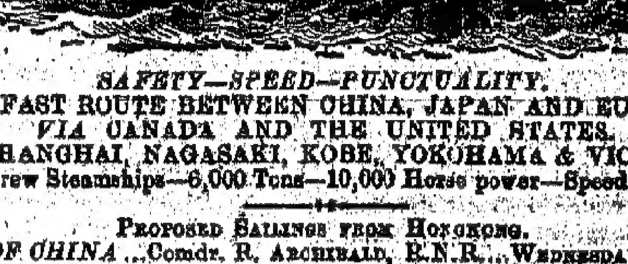
1896.  1896.

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Twin Screw Steamships—6,000 Tons—10,000 Horse power—Speed 19 knots.

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THE magnificent Steamships of this Line pass through the famous INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, and usually make the voyage YOKOHAMA TO VANCOUVER (B.C.) in 12 DAYS, making close connection at Vancouver with the PALATIAL TRANS-CONTINENTAL TRAINS of the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY leaving there daily, and cross the Continent FROM THE PACIFIC TO THE ATLANTIC WITHOUT CHANGE. Close connection is made at Montreal, Quebec, Halifax, New York and Boston with all Trans-Atlantic Lines, which passengers to Great Britain and the Continent are given choice of.

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SPECIAL RATES (first class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Service of China and Japan Governments.

CIRCULAR PACIFIC TICKETS Hongkong to Vancouver, Vancouver to Sydney Australia via Honolulu, and Sydney to Hongkong via Brisbane and Torres Straits, Good for 9 months £100.

The attractive features of this Company's route, embraces its PALATIAL STEAMSHIPS, (second to none in the World), the LUXURIANCE OF ITS TRANSCONTINENTAL TRAINS (the Company having received the highest award for same at recent Chicago World's Exhibition) and the diversity of MAGNIFICENT MOUNTAIN AND LAKE SCENERY through which the Line passes.

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Hongkong, December 26, 1895. 2435

SHARE LIST.—QUOTATIONS.—DECEMBER 27, 1895.

Stocks.	No. of Shares.	Value.	Paid up.	Closing Quotations, Cash.
BANKS.				
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Cor. New Issue	80,000	125	all	182 % prem.
Bank of China & Japan, Limited preference shares	39,950	£ 5	£ 5	nom.
,, ordinary ,,	100,815	£ 8	£ 1.10	nom.
,, deferred ,,	1,250	£ 1	£ 1	£2, buyers
National Bank of China, Limited	...	£ 10	£ 8.10	£27
MARINE INSURANCES.				
Canton Insurance Office Co., Ld.	10,000	$ 250	$ 50	$195, buyers
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ld.	24,000	$ 83.33	$ 25	$74, sales
North-China Insurance Co., Ld.	5,000	£ 100	£ 50	Tls. 225, sellers
Straits Insurance Co., Ld.	30,000	$ 100	$ 20	$24½, sales and sellers
Union Insurance Society Co., Ld.	10,000	$ 250	$ 25	$197½, sales and sellers
Yangtsze Insurance Association, Ld.	8,000	$ 100	60	$121, sellers
FIRE INSURANCES.				
China Fire Insurance Co., Ld.	20,000	$ 100	$ 20	$88½, sales
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ld.	8,000	$ 250	$ 50	$265, sales and buyers
DOCKS.				
H'kong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ld.	12,500	$ 125	all	147 % prem.
STEAMBOATS.				
China and Manila S. S. Co., Ld.	5,000	$ 50	all	$71, sellers
Douglas Steamship Co., Limited	20,000	$ 50	all	$53, sales
H.K. C. and M. Steamboat Co., Ld.	20,000	$ 20	all	$37½, sales and sellers
Indo-China S. N. Company, Limited	60,000	£ 10	all	$58, sellers
China Mutual S. N. Co.	20,000	£ 10	£ 10	£6.5
			£ 5	£7.10
Do. (new issue)	20,000	£ 10	£ 1	£2.10
REFINERIES.				
China Sugar Company, Limited	20,000	$ 100	all	$114
Luzon Sugar Company, Limited	7,000	$ 100	all	$60, sellers
WHARVES.				
HK. & Kow. Wharf & Godown Co.	20,000	$ 50	all	$40, sales
Wanchai Warehouse and Storage Company, Limited	2,800	$ 100	$ 37½	$43, sellers
LAND AND BUILDING.				
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Company, Limited	50,000	$ 100	$ 50	$69, sales and sellers
Kowloon Land and Building Company	6,000	$ 50	$ 30	$16½
Humphreys' Estate & Finance Co.	25,400	$ 10	all	$9½, sales
West Point Building Co., Limited	12,500	$ 50	$ 40	$19½
TRAMWAYS.				
HK. High-Level Tramways Co., Ld.	1,250	$ 100	all	$90
MINING.				
Jelebu Mining & Trading Co., Ld.	45,000	$ 5	all	$2.00, sales and buyers
Punjom Mining Co., Ld.	60,000	$ 4	all	$5, sellers
Société Francaise des Charbonnages du Tonkin	12,000	Fcs. 500	Fs. 500	$75
New Balmoral Gold Ming Co., Ld.	50,000	$ 3	all	$2, sellers
Raub Aust. Gold Mining Co., Ld.	200,000	£ 1	13/10	$3⅞, buyers
PLANTING, ETC.				
China-Borneo Company, Ld.	7,500	$ 100	$ 55	nom.
H. G. Brown & Co., Limited	6,000	$ 50	all	$6, sellers
HOTELS, ETC.				
Hongkong Hotel Company, Ld.	6,000	$ 50	all	$19, buyers
DISPENSARIES.				
A. S. Watson & Co., Limited	60,000	$ 10	all	$12, sales and sellers
Dakin, Cruickshank & Co., Ld.	50,000	$ 5	all	$1
LIGHTING.				
HK. and China Gas Co., Limited	7,000	£ 10	all	$100, buyers
Hongkong Electric Co., Limited	30,000	$ 10	$ 8	$8½, sales and buyers
BRICK AND CEMENT.				
Green Island Cement Co., Ld.	20,000	$ 50	all	$35½, sales
Hongkong Brick & Cement Co., Ld.	4,000	$ 15	$12.50	$7½, buyers
MISCELLANEOUS.				
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ld.	8,000	£ 1	£1	nom.
	7,000	£ 1	£ 15s.	$10
Campbell, Moore & Co., Limited	1,200	$ 10	all	$3, buyers
Geo. Fenwick & Co., Limited	8,000	$ 25	$ 25	$20, buyers
Hongkong Bakery Company, Ld.	600	$ 50	all	$36
Hongkong Dairy Farm Co.	0,000	$ 10	all	$10, sales
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	$ 25	all	$95, sales
H'kong Rope Manufactory Co.	13,000	$ 50	all	$130, sellers
Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ld.	10,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 50	Tls. 40
International Cotton Manufacturing Co., Ld.	10,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 25	Tls. 47½
Laou-Kung-Mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ld.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 25	Tls. 47½
Carmichael & Co., Ld.	2,000	$ 25	$ 20	$10, sellers
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ld. Founder's shares	2,000	Tls. 500	Tls. 200	Tls. 200

LOANS.	Amount.	Value.	Interest.	Quotation.
China Imperial 133	Tls. 767,200	Tls. 25	7 % p. ann.	10 % prem., sales

A. G. STOKES, *Sharebroker.*

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